



The Right Place

The Right Sunday



OCTOBER 9, 2016

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A MINISTER
FIRED?**

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DIE FROM
KILLER HAY**

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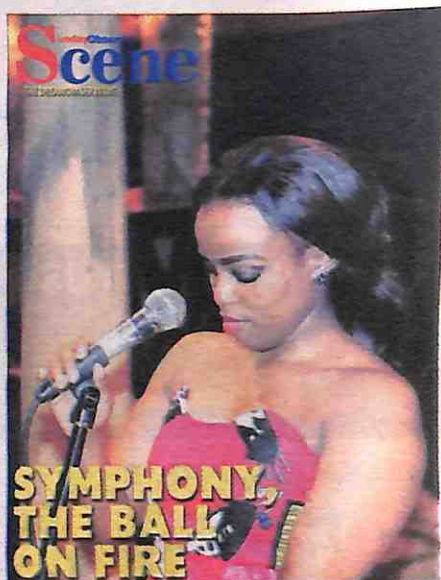
IMBUBE KING'S MARATHON 2016



Imbube King's Marathon 2016 champion Sifiso Sibandze of Golden Foot Club receiving his trophy from His Majesty King Mswati III at the Prince of Wales Sports Ground yesterday. Sibandze also received E50 000 for his splendid performance.
(Pic: Lucky Simelane)

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**SYMPHONY,
THE BALL
ON FIRE**

417 EU MPs ENDORSE KINGDOM BUT...

EU Ambassador says SD must be wary of 216 MPs who wanted the country out of the SADC-EU EPAs

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Heels

a women's road safety networking event

on Wheels

an empowering conversation on:
Insurance
Vehicle finance
Surviving hijacking
Know more about your car
Buying a new car

Contact 76786329 or 76088608

Date: 29 October 2016
Venue: MTN Golf Park, Ezulwini
Time: 12:30-19:30
Entrance: E250.00

GOLF LESSONS
Come and test-drive a Volvo



CLARIFICATION

SADC-EU EPAs

Challenges SD to work on issues of concern

EU Ambassador has challenged the country to continuously work on issues which may threaten the country's position within the Economic Partnership Agreement.

He said such would come about if it does not comply with the obligations the agreement brings about.

This is in light of Article 8 of the Cotonou Agreement which

holds that there was a scope of partners to impose sanctions in the event any of the parties violated any of the essential elements underpinning the agreement such as human rights.

Respond

However, the ambassador stated he had hope the country would respond to all the elements and did not believe there would be a time when it had to be suspended from the

agreement which largely benefitted the kingdom.

Largest

"I do not want to imagine how the country could absorb such news especially because the EU is the largest provider of development assistance, as well as the fact that it has the largest economic markets. So such news would have a very big impact on Swaziland," he pointed out.

Bellomo stated no one had imposed the treaty on the country and for every party – once they had signed they have an obligation to domesticate and implement it properly.

Dialogue

When asked on the process to suspend a party from the treaty, he stated the decision is reached through dialogue which can be initiated by any party and it is through such that the decision on whether to suspend or not would be reached.

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(starsky@realnet.co.sz)TWO THIRDS OF EU MPs
ENDORSE SWAZILANDSTORIES BY MLONDI
MPANZA

Two thirds (about 417) of EU MPs have endorsed the country's inclusion into the recently ratified Southern African Development Community (SADC) – European Union (EU) Economic Partnership Agreement.

However, despite this endorsement, European Union Ambassador to Swaziland Nicola Bellomo stated in an exclusive interview with the *Sunday Observer* the country should worry about the third (216 MPs) who wanted it excluded from the partnership and the 118 MPs who abstained from the vote.

He said those who wanted the country to be excluded cited human rights violations, in particular The Nation Magazine Editor Bheki Makhubu and Human rights lawyer Thulani Maseko arrests as examples.

He stated the treaty was a new generation of trade agreements which would open the SADC goods to European economic markets duty free since the two bodies did not compete on the same goods.

The SADC-EU EPA was

...however, EU Ambassador says country must worry about the third that wanted it out of the SADC-EU EPAs



European Union Ambassador to Swaziland Nicola Bellomo.

signed in June 2016 between SADC countries namely Swaziland, Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and South Africa and is meant to benefit these countries through access to

European markets without any duties or quotas.

Largest

This will be of great benefit to the country more-so because the EU has one of the largest

trade markets and is also one of its greatest development partners.

Bellomo stated how subsequent to the ratification process by the countries, the agreement was taken to the EU Parliament for adoption and it was then that the case of Swaziland was put into a voting process which saw 216 MPs voting against the country whilst 417 voted for and leaving 118 MPs abstaining from the vote.

As of such, the EU ambassador shared that this should be a wake-up call for the country because it showed there was still a serious concern about the country, although not shying away from the fact that the 417 MPs who voted for were also a sign of encouragement.

"The concerns were related to issues that concerned the arrest of Bheki and Thulani, the judiciary and the rule of law in Swaziland.

However, there are signs of progress in light of the ongoing debates on the terrorism and public order bills which are

Swaziland can be self sufficient on energy

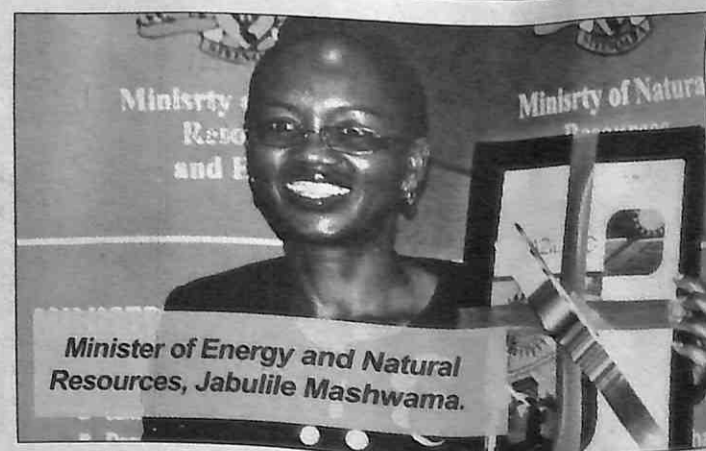
Whilst the country continues to depend on South Africa for electricity, it has actually been said it has enough resources to generate its own electricity.

The EU Ambassador said that the country has a huge potential to produce its own renewable energy and stop depending on South Africa.

In fact, he pointed out his can be achieved through the involvement of companies such as the sugar and timber producing industries which he said each would produce around 20

to 25 percent of the energy and when these are combined the country would meet its needs.

"Recently, we had reports of Montigny Investment revealing potential to generate its own energy and these are the areas that need to be considered by the government in order to meet the needs of the country," he said. Therefore, he said with the EU, the African Growth Opportunity Act (AGOA) and Southern African Customs Union (SACU), Swaziland would be far better off in terms of the economy and develop-



Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, Jabulile Mashwama.

Mashwama whom they had had discussions and shared knowledge with but all that was needed now was the implementation.

SADC-EU EPAs

EU worried about government's response to drought

EU Ambassador Nicola Bellomo doubts the country is taking the drought situation seriously.

"We do not see any seriousness from the government towards drought, yet they have the money and all we see is their reliance on international support," he said.

He asserted whenever they queried on what the government was doing to

respond to the situation, no clear answers were provided. This was said to be part of the fiscal challenge faced by Swaziland which brought about the need for proper training on the management of public funds. Bellomo added: "The country can seek for a loan, but the challenge is always the fact that the money is not invested in investments which would see it grow and bring back a reasonable

gain."

He mentioned some ongoing national projects which he doubted would bring back any returns.

Instead, he said it was highly likely that some of those projects would end up being an expense to the government as it will have to be maintained and if some were viable business ventures the private sector would have by now invested their money on them.

currently being deliberated at certain stages," he pointed out.

Also, the involvement of the public and civic society in the crafting of such bills is something worth noting because that is part of the issues that need to be addressed, however they look forward to find out on the end results of the processes.

He added: "The recent ruling on the Suppression of Terrorism Act is also part of the equation and it shows this is not only an international concern, but also a domestic issue."

Constitution

The ambassador revealed that his sincere hope was for the country to eventually come up with laws that would be in line with the Constitution, stating they were not imposing anything on Swaziland.

However, since they were now part of the family through the EPA, they have to walk together and respect the obligation that has been brought into light. It is worth noting that Article 8 of the Cotonou Agreement which is linked to the EPA states: "The Parties to the Agreement shall regularly engage in a comprehensive, balanced and deep political dialogue leading to commitments on both sides."

It further states that,

whereas the successive Lomé Conventions focused primarily on economic cooperation, the Cotonou Agreement places much more emphasis on 'politics', with support for democratisation processes and reforms to improve governance in ACP countries.

There is also scope for the partners to impose sanctions as a measure of last resort if a party violates any of the essential elements underpinning the Agreement, such as human rights.

Different

Further more, Bellomo pointed out the relationship through the EPA had different components which were political, economic and cultural, but to name a few.

He said the country's confirmation of participation in the EPA meant whatever is being done should be in line with local standards and that applies to the respect of human and workers rights, the rule of law and democratisation processes. But, over and above, he said the ball was now in Swaziland's court in as far as how it addresses these issues, particularly those bills currently under discussion in parliament.

He was a bit worried though that it may soon proceed to recess without all the bills passing

through.

A major product the region exports to the EU market is diamond, according to the EU Commission website.

Four countries Botswana, South Africa, Lesotho and Namibia dominate that space.

Other products from the region include agricultural products such as beef from Botswana, fish from Namibia or sugar from Swaziland, oil from Angola or aluminium from Mozambique.

Exports

South Africa's exports to the EU are much diversified and range from fruit to platinum and from manufactured goods to wine.

The EU exports a wide range of goods to the Southern African Development Community EPA countries, including vehicles, machinery, electrical equipment, pharmaceuticals and processed food.

The SADC EPA membership is diverse in terms of economic development: Lesotho, Mozambique are considered as least developed countries (LDCs), but countries like Namibia and Botswana hold upper middle income status.

Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia South Africa and Swaziland form the Southern Africa Customs Union (SACU).

Retrenched Council workers
licking their wounds

...as they send SOS to the Mayor crying foul over the restructuring exercise which has seen them going home, while the union disputes ever signing agreement

BY MLONDI MPANZA

The retrenched workers of the Municipal Council of Mbabane are licking their wounds after falling victim to the restructuring exercise they have been fighting against without reaching fruition.

This time around they have turned to the Mayor, Benito Jones who they are seeking audience with together with the Councillors to try and save their 'already sunk' ship.

In a letter dated October 5, 2016, the workers refer the mayor to the restructuring exercise which got them retrenched which they allege has been done without following the laws of the country.

It also allegedly defies the order issued by the Ludzidzini Libandla Council on the matter, they claim whilst Jones denied knowledge of such in existence. "I have no knowledge of any letter written by the Council workers union," he said in a text message.

The bone of contention is said to be the collective agreement that was used to compensate those affected by the restructuring which they claim was not the one the Ludzidzini Libandla ordered the Council to use. In their order, the Ludzidzini Council ordered the matter be put to rest whereby the 2007 policy would be set aside because it no longer applied and instead use the 2012 policy in implementing the restructuring process.

Yet again, the workers are complaining about this issue which has been the centre of a stand-off between the two parties during the course of the negotiations hence the involvement of the King, particularly



Mbabane mayor Benito Jones.

because the management seemed to be ready to proceed with it despite the deadlock.

A day after the letter was crafted in as far as its date is concerned saw the Council through the Chief Executive Officer, Gideon Mhlongo making statements in our sister publication, the Swazi Observer daily on Friday which were to the extent that the collective agreement used was in line with the directive by the Ludzidzini Council. He also revealed the agreement had also been registered with the Industrial Court and therefore deeming it as legal.

The workers allege that the union was not invited when the signing of the agreement took place hence deeming it as invalid as per the order of the Ludzidzini Council.

"The issue of outsourcing was not considered as we speak the positions of our members are already outsourced to the public. The order states clearly there should be a legal collective agreement, we kindly report the management fraudulently obtained the document by bypassing the union," reads the letter.

It is further alleged the agree-

ment was not signed by the President and the General Secretary of the union in terms of clause 8.15 of the Recognition and Procedural agreement, as well as alleging they were not informed of any negotiations were to take place regarding the collective agreement despite that the president of the union was still employed by the Council.

In recent statements made by Mhlongo, he asserted the retrenched workers had been given packages which on average were around E120 000 for the exit.

The restructuring process was said to be means of improving services to the residents of Mbabane since there was no city in the first world countries that provided services the way they did and said they had negotiated with the union. Sourcing a comment from the Council's Information and Public Relations Officer, Lucky Tsabedze proved futile as when called at first he requested to see the contents of the letter which were sent to him via WhatsApp. Afterwards, calls to his number failed to go through as it was no longer on the mobile service network.

Govt, EU in discussions on FPE funding

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

European Union (EU) Ambassador to Swaziland Nicola Bellomo says the funding of the Free Primary Education was supposed to end in 2015, as per the initial agreement with the government of Swaziland.

However, Bellomo revealed during the interview with the *Sunday Observer* there were currently ongoing discussions on the possibility of extending it a bit further.

The ambassador said it was unfair for parliamentarians or reports to insinuate the EU was suddenly pulling their funding when it was known from the start the funding was expected to end last year, but

they decided to extend to 2016 because there were some excess funds remaining from their budget.

"We consider education a pre-condition for development and it is one of our highest priorities. We have been working closely with government with the programme which was mainly linked with MDG.

The way it has been reported does not reflect 100 percent of the reality. It is unfair to say EU is pulling out like it was not expected.

We were even able to extend we are in a situation that was not foreseen in the beginning. Even now we are in discussions with the government about the possibility of extending a bit, although it is

a bit premature to say for sure," he said.

He said they were actually trying to stretch the available budget rather than pulling out. Bellomo said however that the grants for 2016 were paid until December so there was no need for concerns on the report that it ends in October 2016.

The ambassador said regardless of the fact there were ongoing negotiations for the possibility of extending; there was a need for government to have an exit strategy because eventually it will be stopped.

Worth noting is the EU's support in education did not come only in the form of the grants, but it was just one component.

'Swaziland is democratic'

"Already, the country is conforming to the conditions stipulated in the SADC - EU EPA since these similar to those from organisations such as the African Union, Commonwealth which we are already part of," said the Government Press Secretary, Percy Simelane after he had been asked on the conditions in relation to the EPA.

He said the country was democratic and respected human and workers' rights

as evidenced by the country's recent withdrawal from the International Labour Organisation's Special Paragraph.

On behalf of the government, he said they were not losing any sleep since the conditions were nothing new especially because they called for what was already happening on the ground.

However, he pointed out there may be instances where the country would have operational accidents, but these were quickly rec-



Government Press Secretary, Percy Simelane.

tified as there was also 'no snow white country all over the world.'

All countries have their challenges and so is Swaziland.

INDLOVUKAZI'S ARRIVAL IN SOUTH KOREA



Her Majesty Indlovukazi received a warm welcome on arrival in South Korea where she is on state visit to strengthen relations between the two nations. Protocol officers present a bouquet of flowers to Her Majesty while Zodwa Ginindza looks on.



Her Majesty and her delegation taking a rest upon their arrival.



Her Majesty in a happy mood after her arrival in South Korea.



Princess Sidvumolesihle with members of the Korean welcoming committee.



Minister of Agriculture Moses Vilakati and South Korea Consular to Swaziland Dr Min and His wife are also among the Her Majesty's delegates.



Foreign Affairs PS Sotja Dlamini, Zodwa Ginindza, Ambassador Thami Dlamini and National Secretary Nhlanhla Dlamini on arrival.



Her Majesty's Protocol Officer Thabsile Hlophe leading the way as she welcomes Boy Mdluli and Minister of Agriculture Moses Vilakati.



Prince Lonkikhela posing with members of the welcoming committee.



The delegation awaiting Her Majesty's entrance.



KING POURS HIS HEART OUT ON A DEMOCRATIC SWAZILAND

- *His Majesty was reacting to accusations by other organisations outside Swaziland's borders that Swaziland does not allow for democratic reforms*
- *King was speaking during an interview with SABC news*
- *Calls for peaceful resolutions to conflicts in the African continent*

BY SANDILE NKAMBULE

His Majesty has poured his heart out on accusations made by people from outside the borders of the Kingdom effecting that Government does not allow for democratic reform in the country.

The King said Swaziland is a democratic society as opposed to views made by other people who have not even had an opportunity to get first-hand information about the way the country is governed.

His Majesty raised the issue of Sibaya in which he explained that as a Swazi nation, Swazis gather at the Royal Cattle Byre to discuss socio-economic and political issues which borders on the country's governance, an indicator of how Swazis live in a democratic society.

The King was speaking during an exclusive interview with the South African Broadcasting Corporation at Lozitha Palace over a week ago. He was responding to accusations that

his government doesn't allow for democratic reforms in the Kingdom.

The country successfully held the people's parliament (Sibaya) in August where the nation spoke their mind on issues bordering on the country's political, social and economic issues.

His Majesty also urged leaders to respect people's views and the constitution of their countries.

As newly-appointed Chairperson of Southern African Development Community (SADC), the King said Swaziland has good relations with South Africa, despite some disputing this.

He has also called for more dialogue when resolving political issues in the continent noting that some resort to civil wars when they are in conflict with each other.

Critics have also accused the Kingdom of repressing dissent and refusing democratic reforms. He has urged leaders to respect people's views and the constitutions of their countries to prevent unnecessary instability. On the outgoing African Union (AU) Chairperson, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, His Majesty said they would have, as African leaders welcomed her staying, but they respect her decision to leave after having served the African continent well. Swaziland is expected to host the AU summit to be held in 2020 after successfully hosting the 2016 Southern African Development Community (SADC) at Lozitha.

PM PLEADS FOR SENSITIVITY IN MAGOBETANE'S CASE

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI and NOXOLO NKABINDE

Having announced the relieving of former minister Magobetane Mamba from duty, Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini requested sensitivity in the way this matter gets handled by the media.

Making this request through government press secretary Percy Simelane, the PM asked that the Sithobela Member of Parliament be called only after an hour, "He is on his way to meet the PM who will tell him of the changes." Simelane stated

that seeing as Mamba's health was fragile, the PM did not want a scenario where he could be shocked, causing his situation to degenerate.

Of note is that Mamba was involved in an accident from which he has been recuperating for the better part of the year.

He has not as yet fully recovered which saw him being absent from office from the time of the accident until the reshuffle. According to family members, although looking physically well, his cognitive functions have not yet returned to normal ruling him out of leading the public service.

The delay in relieving him of his

position by the head of government was commended by unionists a few months back who stated that it was more humane to let him recuperate before major decisions are made.

While absent from duty, he was represented by Minister Jabulani Mabuza in most instances.

The car accident saw Mamba taken to hospital in South Africa resulting in him missing most of the highlights which happened within his ministry such as civil servants' unrest as they wanted their salaries reviewed as per agreements made with government in their joint negotiation forum.

Most ministers are elected MPs

His Majesty King Mswati III, through the Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini announced new cabinet appointments on Friday.

The two 'new brooms' replace Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade Gideon Dlamini and Minister of Public Service Magobetane Mamba, who has been away from office for almost a year due to illness. Worth noting is that the two former ministers who served in the two ministries were appointed from the elected Members of Parliament.

They have also since been replaced by elected Members of Parliament. Mamba was elected as a Member of Parliament under the Sithobela Constituency while Dlamini was elected under the Mkhweni Constituency.

Meanwhile, the new ministers were also elected into parliament during the 2013 elections.

The new Minister of Tourism and Environmental Affairs Christopher Gamedze also serves as an MP for the Mafutseni Constituency while Minister of Public Service Owen Nxumalo is Manzini South MP. This means the reshuffle does not affect the number of elected MPs that were initially appointed as cabinet ministers, as the number still stands at eight of the 20 cabinet members inclusive of the Prime Minister.

The constitution of Swaziland states that "(i) The King shall appoint ministers from both chambers of parliament on the recommendation of the Prime Minister, (ii) At least half the number of the Ministers shall be appointed from among the elected members of the House."

Elections in the country take place every five years (a term) where 55 of the 65 member House of Assembly. The other 10 members are appointed by His Majesty King Mswati III, while 20 senators were appointed by the King, and 10 are selected by the House of Assembly.

Cabinet ministers are then appointed from the appointed and elected members of parliament, as well as the senate. The Swazi government comprises of 19 ministries, where nine are led by ministers who were appointed from the elected pool of MPs.



The newly appointed Ministers Christopher Gamedze and Owen Nxumalo congratulating each other at the Corban Build Hardware event that was held at Mafutseni. (Pics: Noxolo Nkabinde)



The mood was jolly at the event both MP Nxumalo and Christopher Gamedze (not in picture) were preparing to attend when they received the news of their appointments.

Govt owned SUV, House for Owen and Gamedze

Among the benefits of being a cabinet minister is being chauffeured in a government owned sport utility vehicle (SUV) by a designated driver, and access to a government owned house or housing allowance.

These are just some of the added benefits that will be gained by newly appointed cabinet ministers Owen Nxumalo and Christopher Gamedze who were announced by the Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini on Friday.

The Finance Circular No. 2 of 2013 states that cabinet ministers are eligible to a housing allowance equal to 25 percent of their monthly basic pay. As members of parliament only, they were eligible to housing allowance equal to 10% of their monthly basic pay.

"Only the Prime Minister,

Deputy Prime Minister, Presiding Officers, Ministers and Regional Administrators can be allocated a government owned residence (s) for official purposes. Thus, these parliamentarians may occupy for official purposes, one government owned residence. Alternatively, these parliamentarians can designate a privately owned residence for use of an official residence when taking up office. In this event, these parliamentarians will be paid the 25% housing allowance. They are not eligible for a housing allowance except when they designate their private residences as official residences," reads the circular. Meanwhile, parliamentarians and their families are entitled, upon relinquishing (termination, retirement, resignation or death) of office, to stay in the



Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs being met by Christopher Gamedze as he alighted from his SUV while Sifiso Dlamini looks on.

government owned residence until the end of the month following the month in which any of the above events took place (one calendar month).

The utility allowance for ministers includes the supply of water, electricity, and municipal rates, while as Members of Parliament

they were only entitled to a utility allowance of 3% of the monthly basic salary. Other included benefits and allowances include communication expenditure of E5 000 per month, travelling abroad first class, and a non accountable entertainment allowance of 10% of the basic salary.

...how ministers lose their jobs

While the Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini did not mention reasons behind the substitution of the cabinet ministers, there are a number of reasons that can lead a minister being removed from office. According to the constitution of Swaziland, the office of a Minister shall become vacant where;

- The King, acting on the recommendation of the Prime Minister, revokes the appointment;
- The Minister is declared insolvent
- The minister ceases to be a member of parliament
- The minister resigns from office
- After a resolution of no confidence is passed by at least two thirds of all the members of the House on the minister, the King removes the minister
- The minister dies or;
- The minister is removed from office for behaviour or inability to perform the functions of that office.

What the circular says on motor vehicle allowance

"The presiding officers and ministers will be allocated sports utility vehicles (SUV's) upon taking office. The government will carry the once off cost of acquiring the motor vehicles directly from the vehicle manufacturers and/or dealerships.

The value of the benchmark SUV will not exceed E800 000 and the total purchase price per motor vehicle must include value added tax (VAT), accessories and a comprehensive motor plan.

In the event the parliamentarian chooses a lesser value than that of the benchmark vehicle; he or she will not be entitled to the monetary difference. Nor will the parliamentarian be allowed to pay part of the excess value should the motor vehicle exceed the benchmark vehicle cost.

Government will cover the



The car that is currently being driven by Minister of Public Service Owen Nxumalo.

cost of insuring the motor vehicles whilst in office. The motor vehicle may be fuelled at any Central Transport Administration centres situated in Swaziland. At the end of the term, the respective parliamentarian will be allowed to purchase the motor vehicle at the depreciated value.

However, at such a time, the fuel benefit will fall away."

However the circular does

not specify if this is only applicable for ministers who enter office at the beginning of the term, or specifically for ministers who are appointed over two years into the term. Worth noting however, is that Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs Edgar Hilary who was the last to be appointed in April last year was allocated a BMW X6 upon taking office.

Cabinet short of 3 ministers after reshuffle

As of Friday just before 1pm, cabinet was sans three ministers in office.

Three portfolios were left without sworn in ministers as none of the three ministers, who are yet to be introduced to their different stations, had instruments or mandates to take up matters within their ministries.

With the reshuffle having been announced on a Friday afternoon, it would be expected that

the three ministers affected will be sworn in tomorrow, making their appointment fully appreciable.

Reshuffle

The reshuffle saw the introduction of two Manzini Region members of parliament inheriting ministerial posts after what has been largely viewed as firing of embattled Gideon Dlamini as well as the relieving of ailing Magobetane Mamba.

By the end of business on Friday, the two new ministers, Owen Nxumalo and Christopher Gamedze had only received calls from principal secretaries about their appointment into the ministries of public service and tourism and environmental affairs respectively.

With Minister Jabulani Mabuza having been transferred to the commerce, industry and trade portfolio, his positioning over the

weekend seemed to be one-foot-in-one-foot-out as, even though he has been a minister since the beginning of the 10th parliament, he could not be expected to take over the reins without the proper instruments enabling him to.

Seeing

He could also not pursue matters rising from the ministry of tourism seeing as he had been relieved of his duties there.

New ministers hounded by job seekers

Within a few minutes of cabinet reshuffle, Minister Owen Nxumalo, who was yet to be officially informed of his appointment, had his phone ringing non-stop. He revealed that he was called by well wishers as well as job-seekers calling him to apply for the position of personal assistant and driver.

For several hours his cellular phone rang off the hook and he was saved by his battery running low before 5pm.

When he was reached after the reshuffle announcement, Nxumalo said he was overwhelmed as he had not expected to be appointed. He then revealed how he had been fielding calls from friends, family and colleagues.

"There are some who have been calling for job prospects and it is all overwhelming," he said. When he was later asked about the numbers of people seeking employment, he said he had lost count as the day had become confusing for him.

...double blow for Gideon as daughter also loses job

With Mkhwiweni MP Gideon Dlamini losing his ministerial position, his daughter has also lost her job as his personal assistant. The former minister lost his job this past Friday after the cabinet reshuffle announced by Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini. According to Circular #2 of 2013, a minister gets to

employ a gardener, driver, housekeeper and personal assistant at the expense of government. They are in essence his employees, although in government's payroll. Dlamini's daughter has been working alongside him for the last three years as his assistant hence the conclusion that she too had been sacked by extension.

Business as usual for Owen, Gamedze after hearing the news

It was business as usual for newly appointed minister Christopher Gamedze and Owen Nxumalo after the news of their appointments was broken to them.

Conveniently, the two Members of Parliament heard the news as they prepared to attend the same event that was held under the Mafutseni Constituency where Gamedze is the MP.

Corban Build Hardware was presenting a sponsorship for the league in Mafutseni where the Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala was the key note speaker.

The news of their appointments evidently spread fast as the other MPs who were present at the event congratulated the new ministers and the mood was jovial amongst all of them.

While Gamedze made no mention of the news he had received, Nxumalo, who had been tasked to make the closing remarks joke and hinted to the oblivious Mafutseni folk.

"Angikhoni nekukhuluma bahlonishwa, konkhe kuhamba kahle," he joked much to the amusement of the other parliamentarians.

Worth noting is that this was hardly an hour after the Prime Minister announced their appointments through a press conference.

This is regardless of the fact that they had not received official notification but they were simply aware when they received phone calls from reporters, and other people who had heard the special broadcast on the national radio.

The MPs continued with their business as usual, and throughout the event the only minister who was recognised as a cabinet minister was Ngcamphalala.

Worth noting however, is that their phones rang non-stop for hours after the announcement.

Conveniently, the two Members of Parliament heard the news as they prepared to attend the same event that was held under the Mafutseni Constituency where Gamedze is the MP.



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PRINCE MAHEBEDLA PAYS LOBOLA FOR INKHOSIKATI LANKAMBULE



Prince Mahebedla paid lobola for his wife Inkhosikati LaNkambule at Esitjeni area yesterday. The Prince from Lozitha and his wife are both late but the surviving children Manzolwandle, Ngabisa and Veliyaphi honoured their parents by paying the lobola for the Inkhosikati. The ceremony was also attended by izinyane Prince Majaha and senior members of the royal family. The ceremony ends today with song and dance from both families in celebration of the success of the ceremony. Didumbutfo Matsebula was umyeni while Prince Manzolwandle represented his father as Umkhwenyane. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



Prince Mahebedla and Inkhosikati LaNkambule's surviving children Manzolwandle, Ngabisa and Veliyaphi during the lobola ceremony. Both the Prince and Inkhosikati are late.



Prince Majaha, Khula, Ngabisa and PS Chief Mlayeto sharing a light moment.



Lutsango entertaining the gathering.



Emalangenis listening to speeches during family talks.



Emalangenis posing for a photo.



Bayeni skinning the three cows that were slaughtered for the ceremony.



Ngabisa presenting gifts to the Nkambule elders.



The wife to South African President Bongekile Zuma joined the Mokgokong family for a picture during the celebrations of the life of longtime Salesian teacher, Sosthenes 'Sos' Mokgokong who would have turned 100 years old today. This was at the Salesian Chapel after a brief visit to the St. Joseph's Cemetery where Mokgokong and his wife, Mary were laid to rest. The celebrations then proceeded to Mavuso Trade Centre where a celebratory lunch was held. (Pics: Mloni Mpanza)

12 YEARS LATER; SS MOKGOKONG'S LAST WISH FULFILLED ON HIS CENTENARY

BY MLONDI MPANZA

As he lied in his hospital bed 12 years ago at Montana Private Hospital's Intensive Care Unit, Sosthenes 'Sos' Mokgokong made a wish to have his book published.

His wish has now been fulfilled on his centenary by his family who yesterday held his remembrance and launch of his book in the country where this revelation was made.

Leading the brief sermon at the St. Joseph's Cemetery where the longtime teacher at Salesian High School and his wife were laid to rest, her daughter and businesswoman, Dr. Anna Mokgokong disclosed how her father had told him of his wish to have his autobiography see the light of day.

The cemetery session marked the first part of the celebrations which lasted for the whole of yesterday, the second being a memorial service at Salesian High School Chapel and finally a celebratory lunch which was at the Mavuso Trade Centre hall and where the book was launched.

Anna, a doctor by profession told those present during the event that, "We are proud, excited and absolutely delighted that your last wish that you expressed to me on the evening of October 14, 2004, a few hours before the Almighty summoned you has been fulfilled today."

This was in reference to the book titled, 'Kolobe: I led a full life,' which she said was now on print and had been published.

Clear

The book was said to have been printed in accordance to the anti-apartheid stalwart who was said to have made it clear he wanted it to be published as is, without anything being changed and indeed it's said to be in the format he requested.

It is in this book that it is stated that prior to his demise and communication of his wish to his daughter, Mokgokong was bubbly in spirit to an extent that the senior nurse and matron at the hospital requested Dr. Anna to inform the family to leave as there were critically ill patients in the ICU.



South African businesswoman and daughter to Mokgokong, Dr. Anna delivering her brief speech during the visit to the St. Joseph's Cemetery where her parents were laid to rest. RIGHT - Mokgokong's Grandson in-law, Boiki Tema posing next to one of the graves.



Granddaughters to Mokgokong Zena and Maita placing a wreath over one of the graves belonging to their grandparents.

Dr. Anna shared the family's appreciation for their parents' investing in their education – for which she said they were the driving force behind their successes and all their achievements.

"The investment you made in our education has given us a solid foundation in our careers and lives. You have never died, spiritually you are present daily in our lives and in our midst and every moment of our lives," she said. After the cemetery visitation, the family then headed for Salesian where another brief session was held and later the luncheon.

Mokgokong's family also known as 'Sos' also pointed out that their father

who would have turned 100 years old today and this was one of the reasons why they elected to celebrate his life on this day, as well as for the fact that October 5 was World Teachers Day, celebrated globally.

Of note and true to expectations, the celebrations were blessed with the presence of prominent figures from neighbouring South Africa and Botswana who had come to share the special day with the Mokgokong family.

These include the wife to President Zuma, Bongekile, Mpho Maepa, a South African businessman and Sam Mpuchane who is a cousin and a businessman from Botswana.



The Mokgokong family joined by friends as they pose after the brief sermon at the cemetery.



Dr. Anna Mokgokong flanked by SA businessman, Joe Madungandaba (L) and Botswana businessman Moloko Mokgokong. RIGHT - South African businessman Mpho Maepa smiling after the brief sermon at the gravesite.



First Lady Bongekile Zuma and her sister exchanging pleasantries with SOS's sister Prisca Molotsi.

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LIMKOKWING UNDETERRED BY WAVE OF STRIKES

STORIES BY SUNDAY REPORTER

The Limkokwing University of Creative Technology (LUCT) believes strongly in the students' right to protest if there are issues they wish to bring to the institution, 'in a more civil manner'.

However, the institution also demands that this right should not be abused, and that students engage in an orderly manner when protesting, and do not disrupt those who want to study.

Students at the university engaged in another rowdy picket this past week, after raising concerns about the calibre of the new lecturers and complaining about two whose contracts had not been renewed. The SRC raised concerns that the new lecturers were inexperienced and under-qualified.

Faced with the second strike in as many months, the university on Friday took the drastic decision to seek a court order to interdict the



Limkokwing University of Creative Technology (LUCT) students pictured outside the campus gate last week during their class boycott. (Courtesy Pics)

protesting students from disrupting and causing disturbance within the school. It also suspended eight students of the Student Representative Council (SRC) executive and further sought to ban these from coming near the campus.

The University's Vice Chancellor (Africa) Professor Cedric Bell said that they had no problem with students wanting to strike, "They have

a right to strike if they think there are issues they wish to bring to our attention, in an orderly manner," he stated.

However, Prof Bell said the students went on a rampage, causing disruption within the campus, and also causing damage to property.

He explained that this was what necessitated their decision to not only seek the intervention of the police, but to further suspend those

identified to have been behind the chaos. "We made it clear to the students that they have a right to strike and that we would not in any way seek to inhibit them from doing so. But we also said that they did not have a right to disrupt the learning experience of those who want to attend classes, and also that they did not have any right to commit acts of criminal damage or to damage equipment," he told this

newspaper during an interview. Prof Bell emphasised that the university felt compelled to seek the court order, but only with the greatest reluctance.

The university believes there was a small group of students who were behind the strike action that saw an altercation between students and police.

The court order restrains nine or 10 specific students from engaging in certain conduct; disrupting classes, coming to campus, or protesting within 100 metres of the main gate, the University said.

Prof Bell said they felt it had to take necessary steps to safeguard the university and those on campus following threats from students as well as damage caused by those who went on a rampage destroying fire extinguishers.

"Again, let me emphasise that we have no problem with the students striking, nor would we have taken a court order if they had been picketing peacefully outside the gate," he stated. "But when they were threatening other students, and on one occasion throwing stones at one member of staff, coupled with the incident involving the criminal damage involving the fire extinguishers, we felt on balance we had to take the necessary steps to safeguard the institution."

Students asked to re-commit to University

Faced with the chaos and disruption of classes, as well as acts of violence, Limkokwing University has asked students to sign agreement forms binding them to the university regulations.

This was to confirm that students commit themselves to be bound by the university rules and regulations, in the wake of the protest action of the past week.

This request was believed to have caused further concerns among the SRC, although it was understood the students have had no problem signing these.

Professor Cedric Bell explained this was not a new regulation, however, they wanted to ensure that every student recommitted to the institution before they entered the



Re-admission forms that were given to students scattered all over the school entrance as students refused to sign them.

university for classes, with effect from this past Thursday. Hundreds of students have already signed these regulations, and on the strength of this, the LUCT will open for classes tomorrow.

"All students, to gain admission to the university and the campus, will be required to reconfirm that they agree to be bound by the university

rules and regulations," he explained.

Prof Bell added that this was nothing new as students signed and agreed to be bound by the rules and regulations when they joined the university as part of the admission process, "...and we are simply asking them to confirm that they were willing to continue to be bound by these regulations," he added.

Issues have been addressed

The issues that students have raised with the university have been addressed.

According to Professor Cedric Bell, the university dealt with the concerns raised by the students, and further reported same to the Student Representative Council (SRC).

The students asked for more research laboratories and the university said it had responded to this concern by increasing the number of work stations that would be available for private study and research.

He said the SRC understood the university's position during a meeting on Wednesday night.

"We explained to the students what steps we had taken to respond to that request," revealed Prof Bell.

However, the sticking point is believed to be the non-renewal of contracts of two lecturers. The university believes some of the students were fighting the cause of these lecturers.

Prof Bell explained that due

process was followed in the decision not to renew the contracts, after going through the normal appraisal process.

"We felt on balance, on this occasion, we did not wish to retain their services," he explained. However, the university believes it has brought in good replacements for these two, and therefore felt the students were not giving the new lecturers an opportunity to deliver classes, before concluding if they were not better quality than the two who have been let go. Prof Bell said the university was concerned that they have lost three weeks of classes, which has also impacted on the exams that students should be taking.

On the issue of the qualifications and experience of the new lecturers, the institution explained that the lecturers are suitable and qualified for the Associate Degree courses it is giving. The other lecturer is believed to be a tutor in the institution and therefore there was no basis for the complaint.

Students boarding buses as they prepared to take their petition to parliament.



Banks contravening zero deposit fee legal notice

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

Contrary to the belief that banks no longer charge deposit fees, some do, albeit on the sly.

Parents have revealed how banks charge fees for their school fees' cash deposits despite believing that the charge was done away with a few months ago. A distressed parent revealed how, on approaching a certain bank, he was required to

pay E15 more than what he had budgeted for.

"The teller told me to pay E15 on top of the fees. This amount, however, did not appear on the deposit slip and despite asking her why I had to pay the E15 on top of the fees, she only said it was policy," the parent said.

After relenting and paying the E15, the parent said he was given a slip which was not clear as it did not explain what the amount was

for.

When the Central Bank was asked whether there were exceptions when fees could be charged on deposits, Head Strategy and Communications Zithulele Gina who was responding to a questionnaire said, "Banks are prohibited from charging either the depositor or the account receiving the deposit." He continued to state that any bank charge relating to such a transaction would be in contraven-

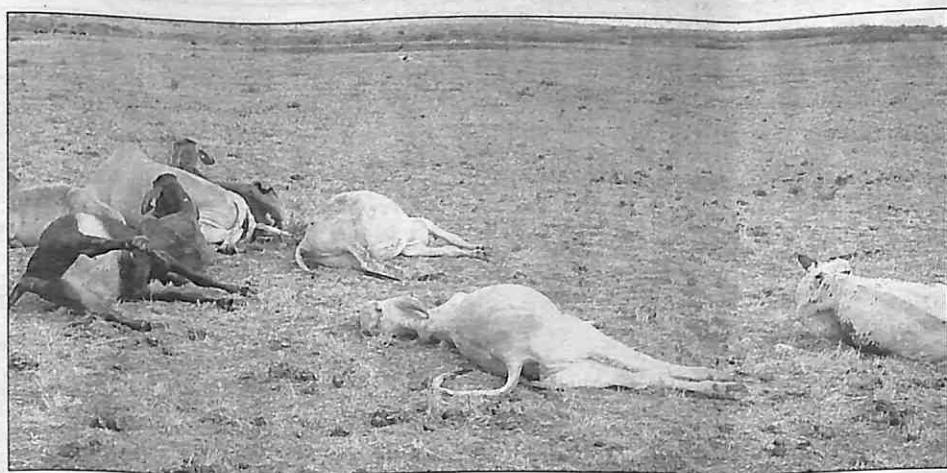
tion of the provisions of this legal notice.

According to the Regulation of Banking Fees and Charges Notice, 2016, which was issued by Central Bank Governor Majazi Sithole through a government gazette dated March 29, 2016; "The banking fees and charges for cash deposit services shall be zero (0) notwithstanding the product or type of account a customer maintains with the bank."

This is as per Section 5 of the Legal Notice No.62.

When asked to explain why banks could still charge the E15, he offered none reiterating how according to the legal notice, all cash deposits made into an account regardless of their nature were not supposed to attract any bank charges.

Efforts to get clarification on the reasons behind the charging of fees by the banks proved futile as the emailed questionnaire was not responded to by yesterday afternoon.



Dead cattle lying at Mphisi Farm after consuming poisoned hay. (Pics: Linda Dlamini)

MORE CATTLE DIE

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

With over 60 cattle having died at Mpisi Farm after consuming poisoned hay, a farmer from Pigg's Peak has revealed how he lost three herds by the end of the day yesterday.

He revealed how he was shocked to find over 20 of his precious livestock lying on the ground yesterday morning in obvious pain despite assurances the hay he had bought on Thursday was safe for his herd to eat.

Relating the devastating news yesterday, Elmon Nkambule said he purchased two bales on Thursday and proceeded to take one home. "We woke up on Friday and left the cattle eating the first

bale while we proceeded to collect the other from Mpisi Farm," he said. To their shock, on arrival they found a commotion after the discovery of 60 herds dead or in various states of breathing their last.

"In panic, I asked them what the cause was and they told me of the poisoned bales," he said.

Purchased

When Nkambule asked them about the bale he had purchased and took home on Thursday, he was told that his was safe seeing as he had collected it prior to the arrival of the poisoned stock. "I was assured everything was in order and my herd was safe. However I was told to leave the second bale which I was prepared to collect and I left for Pigg's Peak without it."

Yesterday morning, Nkambule revealed how he then found several of his herds lying on the ground, seemingly ill. "On reading the Observer on Saturday about the solution which can help the cattle, I rushed to administer it to them, unfortunately one of the worst looking died within a few minutes," he said.

Water

The ministry of agriculture's Director of Veterinary and Livestock Services Dr Xolani Dlamini reportedly said, "Farmers should pour about 350 millilitres of vinegar, half the 750 bottle, into a five litre container of water. After that add about forty spoons of sugar; mix the concoction until dissolved and then ensure the cow

drinks at least two litres," while at Mpisi farm on Friday.

After the death of Nkambule's first herd, two more died one after the other. Dr Dlamini foresaw the death of other cattle as he revealed how bales were bought by numerous farmers in the area and others from as far away as Nhlanguano to feed their cattle.

According to the director, symptoms included cattle going blind before they died.

Poison

Explaining further, he reportedly said, "It is more than likely the poison sticks to the red blood cells resulting in the cell not being able to take up oxygen and deliver it the rest of the body. Put simply the cow is being suffocated and cannot

breathe as a result of lack of oxygen because of the toxin," he said.

The director said signs that show that a cow has been poisoned followed a pattern and farmers should be on the lookout for the signs.

"The cow first starts to stumble as if it is drowsy and cannot stand up properly.

"The cow then starts showing signs of nervous system damage like continuous twitching, like a continuous kinking motion while it lays on the ground. When the cow is immobile and is just twitching on the ground the cow's belly becomes large and bloated. After that it finally goes blind and dies. All this happens within a couple of hours," Dlamini explained.

Treating HIV+ on testing not practical - Nurses

STORIES BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

Nurses have expressed their reservations against the practice which calls for those who test HIV+ to be initiated on anti retroviral treatment.

Explaining their position, Swaziland Democratic Nurses Union (SWADNU) Secretary General Sibusiso Lushaba said the country was not ready for the policy seeing as some aspects relied donor funding which was not lifelong.

This he said while acknowledging that medications were wholly funded by government. "In the current conditions, the policy is not sustainable."

He alleged the program was donor driven. "The impetus it is giving to the country's treatment programs can be damaging and even dangerous because our socio-economic situations is not ready for it because of challenges that you and I know....actually the problems that our health system stems from the fact that our government took a back seat towards health funding because donors were there to finance it. Once the donor funds dwindle government fails to maintain the same standards in terms of finance and other much needed resources."

During a heated debate on Facebook following his posting of their position, nurses cautioned against adopting policies which



heavily relied on donor funding in the wake of major organisations reducing their aid to the country. "Donors are not a lifelong solution, they only make sure one only gets into the system and then leave," one nurse said.

Another doubted the consistency with which the country would be able to procure the medication seeing as in the past, the country has had an erratic supply of anti retroviral tablets resulting in brief stock outs. "Health policy should never be donor driven," he said, further asking, "Who will fund the anticipated influx of tests and start clients?" he said.

Facilities

"Our health system and facilities were never ready to respond to the emergency. At first we thought they were ok until HIV revealed that a lot is not right albeit to the loss of so many lives which should not have died," another stated. Seeing as

ART is a lifelong regime, nurses said such an initiative increased the demand for ARVs which were bought from the fiscus. "What is the rational of treating someone with a CD4 cell count of say 600 which is normal other than creating market for pharmaceuticals?"

Pricier

They further alleging there would be increased cases of defaulters which will be pricier for the country in the long run.

Another who tried to make sense of the whole debate asked, "All patients would have early access to ART. Reduction of Mother to child transmission and of course with a whole lot of adherence to treatment issues, would it also reduce new cases of infection?"

The response was, "Hypothetically speaking all other things being equal yes."

Another user stated how nurses were advocates for the people. "Not

IMPROVED HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR THE POPULATION

Yes indeed we are against this move for all the reasons mentioned above

1. 350 CD4 thresholds working just fine.
2. Patient readiness to take life-long treatment is very important
3. Lab tests are very important for a nurse to start and maintain one on treatment
4. There is increase number of kidney failure due to heavy drugs such as ARVs therefore you can't initiate people willy-nilly predisposing them to kidney failure.
5. Year after year around April to June we struggle with ARVs while waiting for SACU contributions. This is the period we ration our clients.
6. No nurses to shoulder this workload
7. Central medical stores declared long ago they don't

have the capacity to carry on this exercise.

8. We have a programme called LLAPLa where we force Pregnant HIV positive women to start on ARVs, results show they don't comply with treatment hence a lot of babies are born HIV positive.

9. Infrastructure is failing to cope with the current system how much more when we add this

10. Donors are not after the health of Swazis but they are after making money through selling more ARVs.

11. The more you enrol people not ready to ART the higher the chances of defaulting treatment. Higher are the chances of treatment failure then a lot of people will be in the second line which is more expensive and high side effects.

that they are against the policy, but from the look of things, the resources are not enough to sustain that. The fear maybe is drug resistance for me. Clinics and hospitals run out of stock of the smallest of things like test kits. Then you wonder whether the whole country will be able to have enough stock."

Continuing, the user stated how those making health policies did not deal with patients directly. The user complained they were not

involved as stakeholders. "How can you market something and not understand it," the user asked rhetorically adding, "Even so, was there any forum where nurses were called to debate the issue at hand? Instead nurses are just instructed on what to do! The same people you will test and treat, it will be like they are forced to take the drugs. The question that comes to mind is; are they going to adhere to the treatment?"

KING OPENS E11M REST IN CHRIST AUDITORIUM



King's Representative Prince Mbuyisa and Rest In Christ Ministries founder Bishop Vincent Hlatjwako in song and dance during the official opening of the E11 million church at Embikwakhe, Mhlaleni on Friday. **RIGHT** - Inkhosikati LaNtentesa joined by Princess Lindiwe and the bishop's wife Busisiwe as they worship. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



Pastor Nkosingiphile Mbhamali was also among the guests.



King's Representative Prince Mbuyisa meeting Ambassador of the State of Qatar Yousef Bin Mohammed Yousef Al-Mahmoud while Bishop Hlatjwako looks on.



Andile Nxumalo and Tee&Jay Boss Thembinkosi Mdzebele (4th from left) were among the guests.



Pastor Zacharia Mthethwa leading the offering session.



Bishop Hlatjwako introducing the church board to the gathering.



Guests in prayer during the event.



Lutsango from the church singing and dancing in joy.



Special guests taking a tour of the church after the opening.



Church leaders and guests following proceedings of the event.



Rest in Christ Ministries' Mbabane branch chairlady Gcebile Mabuza speaking on behalf of the church board.

12 TEACHERS NOMINATED FOR 2016 TEACHERS AWARDS

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

The Swaziland Heroes in Education (SHE) will once again honour outstanding teachers in the country.

The application process which was opened early this year has seen 12 teachers being nominated to be awarded at the prestigious award ceremony that is held annually. Of these teachers that were nominated are three principals from St Francis High School, Dinani High School and Nzongomane Primary School. These are namely Edgar Mavuso, Celucolo Dlamini, and Gugu Dlamini respectively. Founder of the teacher's awards concept Boy Khumalo said the teachers were selected from a pool of nominees and underwent an extensive selection process which includes interviews. The selected teachers are a mixture of primary school teachers, high school teachers as well as principals.

"We will be recognising teachers once again this year who have shown to be outstanding in the field. Through the support of our sponsors we will host the award ceremony where they will receive different prizes," he said. Just this week the world celebrated teachers around the globe for the role played in raising and grooming children to what they are today. Teachers were praised for their patience in dealing with the most troublesome of children, to children who needed special attention and support in class. Social media was abuzz with messages to teachers and former teachers with some even honouring their grade one teachers. World Teachers Day was celebrated internationally on Wednesday, October 5 2016.



Edgar Maqhawe Mavuso, Celucolo Dino Dlamini and Gugu Patience Dlamini.



Cebisile Dlamini, Thembisile Dlamini-Dludlu and Sipiwe Kunene.



Mzamo Sibanda and Winnie Nkambule.



Maureen Dlamini, Jabu Patricia Motsa, Sekelile Mdlovu and Hilda Thulile Ndwandwe.

Bumpy ride in Mbabane

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

Mbabane residents really have it tough.

If it is not contending with water rationing, they have to negotiate their way on the little bit of tar left around pot-hole riddled roads leading to residential areas.

The capital city, which is developing at a fast pace, is characterised by some of the worst roads as well as those which make driving a joy.

Granted, there have been huge improvements over the last two years, however, the improved road infrastructure makes those few roads which have been left unattended



look worse, if not deplorable. Currently, refurbishments which started along the road from Sifundzani are now on

Gwamile Street beginning at corner of Msakato Street leading to the intersection which has Dabede, Gilfan, Carl Grant streets.

Due to road works, residents of Dalriach, Thembelihle, Pine Valley, Eveni and Fonteyn have to use the alternate route passing by Mabandla (formerly Mission) Street which is riddled with rim shattering pot-holes.

Streets like Ligumbi typify the types of roads some residents have to navigate despite being rate payers.

Other dangerous potholes crop up in the middle of good roads making for a shocking ride which shock absorbers fail to cushion.

BELOW IS THE LIST OF NOMINATED TEACHERS;

EDGAR MAQHAWE MAVUSO
School: St' Frances High School
Position: Former Head teacher (Retired)
Subjects: Geography, African languages & Career guidance

CELUCOLO DINO DLAMINI
School: Dinani High School
Position: Head teacher
Teaching Experience: 16 years
Subjects: English and Religious Studies

GUGU PATIENCE DLAMINI
School: Nzongomane Primary School
Position: Head teacher
Teaching Experience: 21 years
Subjects: Siswati & English

CEB'SILE DLAMINI
School: St' Frances High School
Position: HOD Consumer Science
Teaching Experience: 20 years
Subjects: Consumer Science

THEMBISILE DLAMINI, DLUDLU
School: Manzini Nazarene High School
Position: HOD Business Studies
Teaching Experience: 32 years
Subjects: Business Studies & Economics

MAUREEN DLAMINI
School: Piggs Peak Central High School
Position: Senior Teacher (Retired August '16)
Teaching Experience: 37 years
Subjects: Siswati & Geography

JABU PATRICIA MOTSA
School: Big - Bend High School
Position: Teacher
Teaching Experience: 31 years
Subjects: Siswati & English

SEKELILE MDLOVU
School: Lusoti High School
Position: HOD Consumer Science
Teaching Experience: 15 years
Subjects: Consumer Science

MZAMO SIBANDA
School: Nhlanguano Central High School
Position: HOD Social Science
Teaching Experience: 22 years
Subjects: English & History

SIPHIWE KUNENE
School: Manzini Central High School
Position: Teacher
Teaching Experience: 14 years
Subjects: Siswati & English

WINNIE NKAMBULE
School: St John Bosco High
Position: Teacher
Teaching Experience: 32 years
Subjects: Siswati & English

JABU PATRICIA MOTSA
School: Big Bend High School
Position: Teacher
Teaching Experience: 31 years
Subjects: Siswati & English



VACANCY

Job title : Clinical Manager
Reports to : Clinical Director
Location : Mbabane - CHAPS Offices
Type of Position : Full time

Job purpose

The clinical manager leads, supervises and manages the CHAPS clinical team, provides clinical services (Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision), provides training and mentoring to clinical staff within the CHAPS consortium and oversees all clinical and quality assurance aspects of CHAPS' VMMC program in Swaziland.

Duties and responsibilities

Lead, supervise and manage the CHAPS clinical team

- Is responsible for leading and managing the CHAPS clinical team: 1 registered nurse, 2 nursing assistants and counsellors.

Provide clinical services

- Perform VMMC in accordance with accepted protocols and models
- Work closely with the Technical Director and the Clinic Manager to ensure the efficient running of VMMC services
- Manages adverse events, including follow-up and quality assurance
- Supervises and mentors trainees to ensure safe circumcision procedures
- Ensures that infection control policies are adhered to
- Prescribe medication where/as appropriate

Oversee all clinical and quality assurance aspects of CHAPS' VMMC program in Swaziland

- Report according to standard VMMC M&E requirements
- Is responsible for quality assurance of VMMCs performed under the project
- Supports the MOH in clinical policy development (guidelines, task shifting, training, ...)
- Performing any other duties that will contribute to the efficient running of the VMMC

Qualifications

Minimum qualifications:

- Recognised Medical Degree (MBChB, or equivalent)
- At least 5 years' experience in a public sector primary health care setting
- At least 2 years' experience in a high volume circumcision clinic
- Valid registration with the Swaziland Medical and Dental Council as a Medical Practitioner
- Valid and up-to-date Malpractice Insurance covering circumcision procedures and general practice
- Demonstrated understanding of relevant Swaziland DOH HIV/AIDS/STI/TB management guidelines and policies
- Experience in training and mentoring staff in VMMC
- Experience in quality assurance and quality improvement
- Demonstrated ability to work in a team
- Willingness to travel within Swaziland
- Willingness to work flexible hours (including weekends)
- Willingness to rotate between local clinics when required
- Professional attitude

Working conditions

The clinical manager will provide services in medical facilities and in mobile settings (e.g. mobile MC units). (S)he must be willing to work flexible hours (evening, weekend) and to travel to remote areas in Swaziland

Physical requirements

Providing VMMC services can be physically strenuous: standing for long hours, working in rural and difficult physical conditions (e.g. heat).

If you are interested in the above position, please email a Cover Letter and Detailed Curriculum Vitae to:

The Human Resource Officer
CHAPS Swaziland
C/O Swaziland National AIDS Program
Mbabane Public Health Unit
Corner of Lusutfu and Television Roads
Mbabane, Swaziland

Please submit applications electronically to chapsrecruitment@gmail.com on or before 14th October 2016. If you do not hear anything after 3 weeks you should consider your application not successful.

SUGAR CANE CUTTERS CONCERNED OVER JOB LOSSES

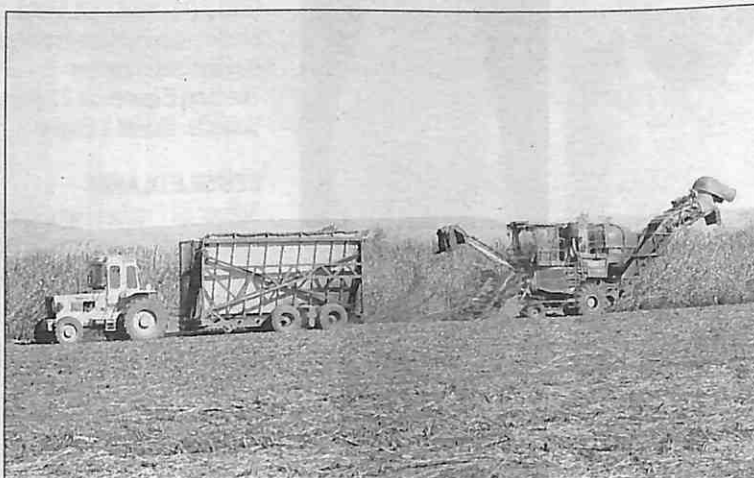
BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

There has been panic among sugar cane cutters in one of the plantation companies in the Lubombo Region following the introduction of new machinery harvesting the sugar cane, a job that has been done by the cane cutters in the previous years.

The machinery was first introduced earlier this year for a short while where workers were told it was only meant to test if it could harvest effectively. This time, workers say they woke up this week to find it was harvesting one of the sugar fields and it went on for the entire day. The name of the plantation company is known to this publication but will not be revealed as the relevant management was not available to speak on the concerns raised.

When a team from this publication paid a visit to the cane cutters place of work this week, they expressed how they were concerned about their jobs as there was now a machine that was doing their work. The cane cutters

...as company introduces harvesting machine



The harvesting machinery that has raised concerns with sugar cane cutters being operated by drivers as they harvested the fields on Thursday. (Pic: Noxolo Nkabinde)

explained that the amount of money they made monthly was determined by the number of lines they managed to harvest.

Machinery

"When we first saw the machinery we thought maybe they were testing it again but it went on to

harvest for the entire day and it must have worked through the night as when we woke up there was more work done. Asati kutsi makachubeka lomshini ngoba ucedza wonkhe lomsebenti," he said.

This can loosely be translated as

UNION GAGGED ON DISCUSSIONS WITH EMPLOYER

The union representing the workers on the issues raised is restrained from discussing the matter while it is still being discussed internally, according to an agreement that was signed over a decade ago.

When the Swaziland Agricultural Plantation and Allied Workers Union (SAPAWU) was asked on whether the workers concerns had been raised with their employer, they revealed that the agreement that was signed does not allow them to speak on such matters especially if the discussions were still internal. "It is an internal matter for now and signed agreements prevent us from discussing internal matters with the media. We can neither

confirm nor deny anything at this point," said a representative. However, the Sunday Observer understands that the matter has been raised with the union's lawyers.

Grievance

The workers' grievance is the concern over the machinery as well as a contractor that had been engaged, which also provides workers who are harvesting the sugar cane fields.

The workers are calling for answers on this engagement and assurance that this would not affect their jobs as the company. The relevant company management who are authorised to speak to the media were said to be away on business and unreachable until they returned.

'we do not know what we will do if the machine continues to do our work.'

Deductions

One of the sugar cane cutters said the most money he made in a month was E3 000 deductions, which he would make after cutting 24 lines daily on average. It is feared that with the machine harvesting the fields, there would not be enough fields for them to cut which meant they would eventual-

ly make less money.

As expected, when the team went past some of the fields, one of the company employees was found hard at work operating the machine. This was hours after the cane cutters had finished for the day and resting in the small village where they reside. The efficient machinery works together with another vehicle which stores the sugar cane once it has been cut off in equal small sizes.

Judge Hlophe's dissenting view a precedence of CJ's judgment

BY MLONDI MPANZA

The dissenting view by Judge Nkululeko Hlophe in the case of the Suppression of Terrorism Act and the Sedition and Subversive Act was based on a judgment by the Chief Justice Bheki Maphalala.

The judgment was later overruled by the Supreme Court on May 30, 2014.

The dissenting view is in relation to the case of Human Rights Lawyer Thulani Maseko and Political Activists Mario Masuku, Mlungisi Makhanya and Maxwell Dlamini who had made an application challenging the validity of some sections of the Sedition and Subversive Act of 1938.

This was on the grounds of inconsistency with Sections 2, 23, 24 and 25 of the constitution which state that the Act shall be the supreme law of the country and guarantees fundamental freedoms.

The overruled judgment by Maphalala who was at the time serving as the High Court judge when he heard it between the King and Swaziland Independent Publishers came after the latter had published articles in the Nation Magazine which were seen as an attack on the country's judiciary.

Maphalala found the said articles were intended and they did have a tendency to bring the administration of justice into disrepute with regards to section 24 of the Constitution relating to the right of freedom of expression and opinion, as well as



Judge Nkululeko Hlophe and Chief Justice Bheki Maphalala.

being found to have scandalised the court.

He substantiated his findings by arguing, "The right to freedom of expression and opinion is important in our society in advancing the democratic ideals enshrined in the Bills of rights; the right allows society to form and express varying opinions constructively with a view to achieve open and accountable governance.

Confines

However, the right has to be exercised and enjoyed within the confines and parameters of the constitution; the enjoyment of these rights like with all the other rights should not interfere with the rights of others." Whilst, Judge Hlophe agrees with the four who were charged in the matter that saw a full bench consisting of Hlophe together with



Judges Jacobus Annandale, Mbutfo Mamba.

This was because the charged persons had contended the duty to prove there was no justification for the limitation caused by the sections in dispute were limiting the rights to freedom of expression and association in that there was no explanation on how that was reasonable and acceptable in a democratic society.

Responsibility

The responsibility for such lied on the respondents being the ministry of justice and constitutional affairs, as well as the attorney general.

Better yet, Supreme Court argued that no freedom was totally and absolutely free. All freedoms were subject to two principal qualifications: the rights of others and the public interest.

As the matter continues to drag in court following the lodging of an appeal by the AG, it has also drawn the interest of Human Rights Lawyer Siphso Gumedze who applauds Judge Hlophe for procedurally advancing his argument in the issue.

Noteworthy, Judge Hlophe's view is dissenting to that of Judges Annandale and Mamba in the sense they are of the view that certain sections of the Suppression of Terrorism Act and the Sedition and Subversive Act were unconstitutional.

This meant that Judge Hlophe's decision was overruled by the majority judgment.

Judgement

Gumedze stressed that when going through the judgment, it was hard for one to find a fault in it because not only did he cite local cases as his basis of the argument, but he also brought into light those from other countries such as the neighbouring South Africa which are also substantive to the matter at hand.

"The Judge used what is referred to as the Ratio decidendi which basically means that the principle of reasoning was thoroughly exhausted, as well as substantiating how he came into the conclusion," he stated.

Judge Hlophe's judgment is also said to have considered core reasoning in the sense that he was mindful of the fact that at the time the case was brought to court the outcome of the situation was not yet certain on how it would be hence justifying his sentiments. Through such, the judge is said not to have implied that people were not entitled to the freedom

of expression, rather what he meant was the case was brought to court prematurely.

Gumedze added, the way the judge advanced his reasons was solid, although he pointed out that this did not mean he personally agreed with the judgment.

He further made reference to South Africa's Constitutional Court which he said, "It has a bench of 11 judges with a minimum of 9. When deliberating issues, it happens that 7 of the overall judges come up with the same findings, but with different reasons from each judge."

Difficult

Therefore, it was difficult to find fault in one's judgment when he has thoroughly exhausted all the principles with justifications based on a number of cases.

In light of the subject of concern of having used a judgment which was subsequently overruled, it has been stated that there is a need to bear in mind that not all the cases cited by Judge Hlophe were overruled.

As a matter of fact, Gumedze said there were no two cases which were similar.

Meanwhile, the charged for in the matter had also sought for an order declaring the Suppression of Terrorism Act of 2008 null and void on the grounds of inconsistency with the constitution for some of the sections.

This was after they had been charged for having made statements during gatherings to celebrate workers day and wearing t-shirts with inscriptions of a banned entity were to be dropped.

EX-DEATH ROW INMATE WANTS OUT OF PRISON



BY OBSERVER REPORTER

Former death row inmate, Mandla Maphalala's wish to be out of prison could soon be granted if sentiments from His Majesty's Correctional Services (HMCS) are anything to go by.

Having survived the hang man's noose for over 18 years now, he believes he should now be out of jail now.

This follows couple of pardons by His Majesty King Mswati III, and he is one of the two prisoners who were commuted from death row to life imprisonment – the other being Richard Mabaso in a decision that saw David Simelane remaining as the lone prisoner waiting to be hanged.

Having been convicted in 1998, he believes his time in prison is up having already served 18 years in consideration of the fact that he was now on life imprisonment.

When quizzed on the matter, HMCS Public Relations Officer, Bongani Khumalo referred this newspaper to the King's pronouncement of the pardon last year where it was stated that Maphalala would be commuted to life sentence.

This then means that he could be right that his time in jail was up.

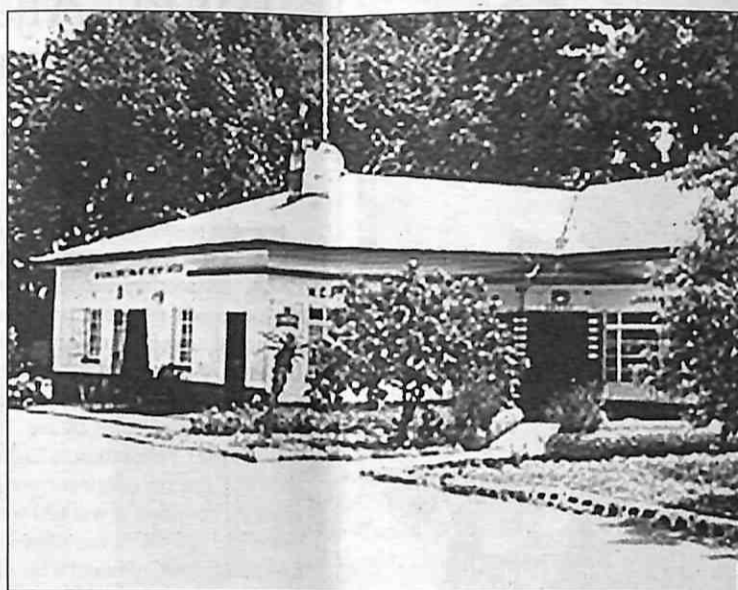
Reduced

According to the constitution, a life sentence is 25 years but each sentenced passed is reduced by a third and this means that a 25-year sentence means the prisoner would be in jail for only about 18 years.

But, the former South African soldier is pointing fingers at certain senior officials from the country's correctional facilities who cannot be named due to the sensitivity of the matter as he claims they are deliberately holding him in prison.

He is presently serving the life sentence at Matsapha Maximum Security Prison after he was found

● When quizzed on the matter, HMCS Public Relations Officer, Bongani Khumalo referred this newspaper to the King's pronouncement of the pardon last year where it was stated that Maphalala would be commuted to life sentence. This then means that he could be right that his time in jail was up.



Administration building of Swaziland's main prison in Matsapha.

guilty of having murdered two officials from the Treasury Department in a robbery gone wrong in November 21, 1997.

Maphalala was the gunman when the two employees of the Treasury Department in Mbabane were shot dead during the robbery, in which cheques for the total amount of E340 000 were stolen.

Robbery

The robbery saw a further amount of E7 000 cash which was in the possession of the deceased government employees being left behind as the gunman, identified as Maphalala, fled the scene in a taxi that appeared to have been hired specifically for purposes of getting away after the crime.

Furthermore, the South African elaborated that when he was first pardoned – he was removed from solitary confinement something which was communicated to him

by word of mouth and yet again when he was commuted to life imprisonment the same procedure was used.

Therefore he questions, "why is it the case that whenever there has been a decision taken on my case, the news is verbally communicated to me contrary to procedures which call for the officials to forward the message to me in writing."

Officials

It is through such gestures that he alleges he is deliberately being imprisoned much longer as he alleges that one of the officials would occasionally make statements to him which are to the extent that he would 'rot in jail'.

Initially, the former South African soldier had been sentenced to two life sentences and an additional 27 years in jail in October 1998.

He was sentenced by the then Chief Justice Stanley Sapire who when passing the sentence noted that evidence led in court seemed to suggest that the intention had never been to kill but to rob, hence one Treasury Department employee linked to the same crime was also sentenced, although to only seven years in jail.

Confinement

Since the day of sentencing, Maphalala spent 24 hours in solitary confinement waiting for the day in which he would be hanged for his crimes – something which never happened in light of the pardons. He would only be let out to play soccer with other prisoners for two hours each day.

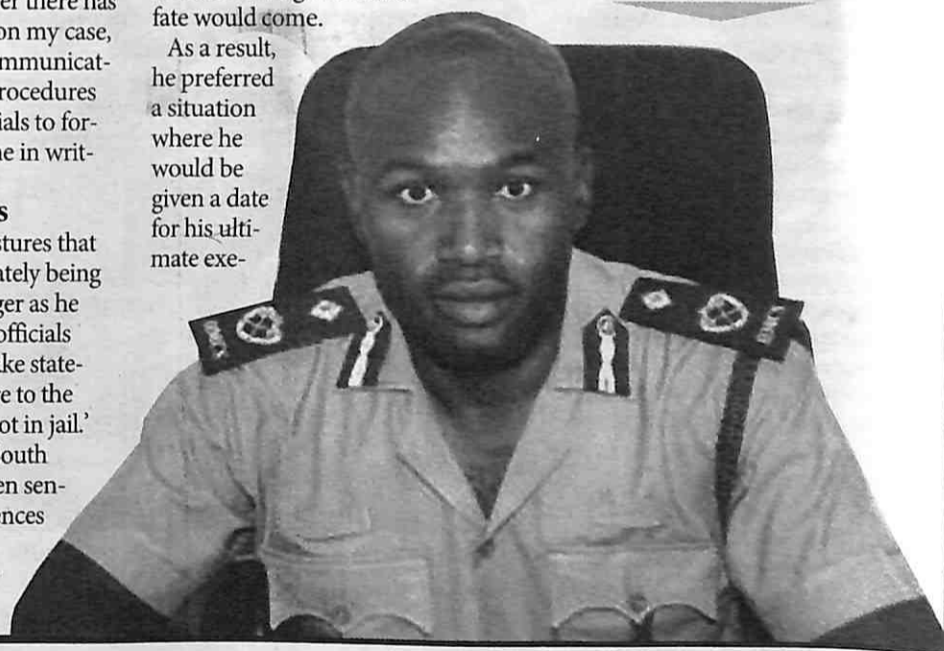
Prior to being commuted to life imprisonment, Maphalala was on a number of occasions reported to have been calling for the date of his hanging being set citing reasons of being traumatised by the thought of not knowing when his fate would come.

As a result, he preferred a situation where he would be given a date for his ultimate execution or be removed from death row.

He also held that he had made efforts to speak to various ministers, from Maweni Simelane to Ndumiso Mamba and Mgwagwa Gamedze on his issue, as well as revealing having met the Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini when he visited the prison during his first stint as PM between the years 1996 and 2003.

Of note, Maphalala's issue was recently confirmed by HMCS Public Relations Officer, Khumalo when he corroborated that there was now only one prisoner waiting on death row, although he did not mention the name, although it is public knowledge that David Simelane's status of being on death row has not changed in the last few years despite others getting royal pardon.

HMCS Public Relations Officer Bongani Khumalo.



Swazi govt urged to implement UPR recommendations

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

The Swazi government is being urged to implement the recommendations it accepted during the last Universal Periodic Review (UPR) in 2011.

Human Rights Watch has reported that the country made little progress on essential rights reforms that Swaziland rejected during the 2011 UPR review. These include the removal of all legislative and practical restrictions on fundamental civil and political rights, in particular those related to freedom of



association and expression to allow the registration and operation of political parties; permitting greater political freedoms through free, fair, transparent and democratic elections. Another recommenda-

tion from the review was ensuring the right to health without discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity; abolition of the death penalty; and decriminalization of same-sex relations and prevention of discrimination based on marital status and sexual orientation.

Amendment

The laws in need of amendment include the 2008 Suppression of Terrorism Act (STA), the 1938 Sedition and Subversive Activities Act, and the 1963 Public Order Act. Concerns have been raised over the powers that police have

under the Public Order Act. They are also calling for the unbanning of political parties.

Implement

"Swaziland should implement past Universal Periodic Review recommendations to ensure progress on rights reforms. Human Rights Watch urges the Swazi government to; guarantee rights to freedom of association, peaceful assembly, and expression, repeal or amend as appropriate repressive laws to comply with the constitution and international human rights standards, including the 2008 Suppression of Terrorism Act (STA), the 1938

Sedition and Subversive Activities Act, and the 1963 Public Order Act." Human Rights Watch is also urging the country to pass reforms to ensure equality for women and prevent their discrimination in law and practice, particularly under Swazi law and custom. This includes resolving conflicts between civil law and traditional law and values to ensure that human rights standards are not ignored, and fully enforce and implement the constitutional provision that no woman shall be forced to take part in a custom to which she objects.

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES APPLAUDED BY SADC DELEGATION

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

His Majesty's Correctional Services has been commended for the great stories made towards good correctional practices which have been witnessed through comprehensive health delivery, approach to rehabilitation and integration of offenders to society.

A twelve member delegation jetted in the country on Tuesday for a regional exchange programme which seeks to strengthen networking and contribute to policy influencing at regional level for improved health and livelihood outcomes for offenders and ex-offenders. During their two day programme, the delegation which mainly consisted of senior correctional officers and health practitioners deliberated extensively on how His Majesty's Correctional Services has set up a good practice in integrated HIV management and health delivery.

They further had the opportunity to be educated on the rehabilitation initiatives which the department undertakes for inmates as well as the good practices on income generating projects within the institution. Speaking during the official opening of the workshop, Commissioner General Isaiah Mzuthini Ntshangase who was represented by the Deputy Commissioner Phindile Dlamini said the department was more than privileged to host the delegation from the SADC region for the benchmarking programme on good correctional practices.

Ntshangase said similarly to other correctional institutions within the SADC region, the department was faced with its fair share of challenges, which were an impediment towards attaining the best correctional standards. Such challenges include overcrowding within correctional facilities which results in compromised health standards, he added. He stated that such a visit was not in any form isolated but part of the regional dream for better corrections in the African region as advocated by the African Correctional Services Association (ACSA).

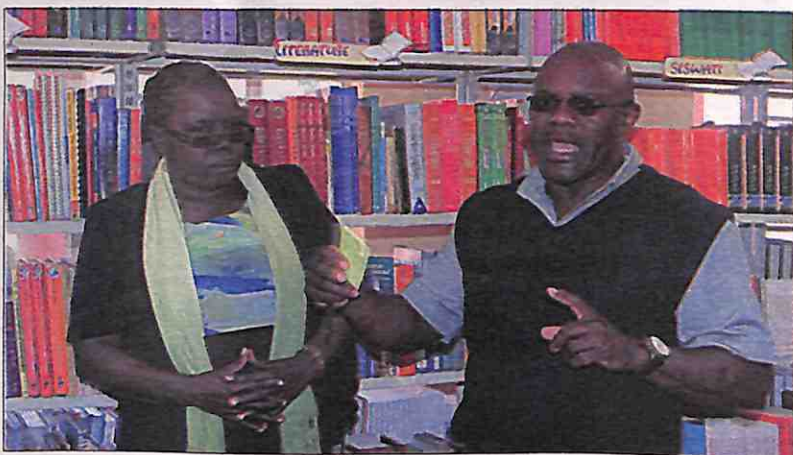
Through this programme, the department is able to benchmark on several agendas including rehabilitation, training and reintegration. According to Ntshangase, health within the correctional setup does not only involve inmates but offenders as well. The delegation had the opportunity to tour at least two of the correctional facilities in the kingdom being Matsapha and Mawelawela Correctional centres. They visited the industries section which is the heart of all vocational work where offenders, through the supervision of officers undertake skills training on carpentry, upholstery and tailoring amongst others. They further toured Vulamasango School where they expressed their excitement over the discipline and professionalism of the school. Speaking on behalf of the delegation, Charity Gezi who is the commissioner responsible for



Deputy Commissioner General Thokozile Nxumalo leading the delegation during their tour at Matsapha Correctional Centre. (Courtesy pics)



Commissioners Phindile Dlamini and Charity Gezi posing with members of the delegation.



Vulamasango Principal Dan Mavuso with commissioner from Zimbabwe Charity Gezi.



This agricultural farm at Matsapha correctional centre was also toured by the delegation.

rehabilitation programmes in the Zimbabwe Prisons and Correctional Service applauded His Majesty's Correctional Services, for the relentless efforts the department has put towards attaining good correctional practices.

The leader of the delegation mentioned that amongst the many interesting areas, they were impressed by the good health system through which

health services are accessed by both offenders and officers. She further cited the rehabilitation programmes which play a pivotal role in acquainting offenders with life skills so that upon release from custody, they could be self-employed. Gezi said there were a lot of ideas that they would emulate and apply in their different correctional centres as they have proved to be good.



Representatives from Heavenly Culture World Peace, Restoration of Light (HWPL) and Aljazeera during the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). (Courtesy pics)

HWPL, Aljazeera sign MoU for world peace and end of war

BY SUNDAY OBSERVER REPORTER

The media is expected to play a role in the cessation of war and world peace, and one of the pioneers of this cause is one of the largest news and current affairs channels Aljazeera which has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Heavenly Culture World Peace, Restoration of Light (HWPL) to achieve their common goals: the cessation of war and world peace. The agreement was signed in the Grand InterContinental Seoul Parnas, in Seoul, South Korea. It is HWPL's first MoU with the global media.

Producer

Attendees were HWPL Chairman Man Hee Lee, director of Aljazeera Center of Public Liberties and Human Rights (PL&HR) Sami Elhag, and senior producer of Aljazeera Center of PL&HR Mohamed Eltayeb Elkhidir. According to Heavenly Culture, World Peace, and Restoration of Light (International) Press and Media Manager Nokukhanya Mlotha, Elkhidir participated in the Proclamation Ceremony of the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War that was held on March 14, which marked the beginning of

collaborative efforts towards peace.

Mlotha also said the close collaboration was promised by Elhag and Lee who emphasised the role of global networks to achieve world peace and appreciated the cooperation and help of Aljazeera. This historical moment was caught on camera by Elkhidir. It was said the idea to become one to achieve world peace and the important role of youth were strongly featured in their discussion. The purpose of the MoU is that the two organizations join together to lead the peace movements through spreading a culture of peace and peace education to women, youth, and religious leaders. HWPL's peace activities will be broadcasted in English, Arabic, Turkish and more languages to over

140 countries across the globe and special documentaries about HWPL will be made. In addition, ways to protect journalists' rights, one of the Aljazeera's initiatives, will also be discussed. At this year's summit, leaders in the field of politics, law, religions, and civil society have gathered to discuss concrete action plans for each sector to advocate for a legally binding document in line with the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War (DPCW). Fifty-nine broadcasters shared ideas of how they can draw people's support as journalists at the press conference and the media forum.

Kombi branding; blessing for owners, curse for passengers

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

The branding of kombis as a marketing strategy appears to be a growing trend among the local kombis, especially those operating in the main cities of the country. Although some companies argue that it is good business for them, passengers and some kombi operators beg to differ. As more and more companies are opting for this marketing strategy, differentiating between the Quantums is now difficult as they are no longer spotting their signature branding and painted slogans which made them easier to tell from the rest. Passengers' main grievance with this branding is that they tend to have preferences when it comes to public transport, especially frequent commuters who prefer to use specific kombis on a daily basis.

One customer who got into an argument with a kombi operator made a lot of noise about the branding saying he had found himself on the 'wrong' kombi more than once as there were now at least three kombis on the same route

which spotted the same branding.

The driver argued that the kombis did not belong to him and he was not involved in the decision to change the appearance of all the kombis, instead the company had approached the owner. The two identically branded kombis are operating along the Mbabane-Mankayane route while the other operates along the Mbabane-Bhunya route. Other passengers who were interviewed had mixed feelings over this.

"Very soon all these kombis will look the same and at the bus rank it is not an issue, it is in the mornings when you are waiting at the bus-stop where it is difficult for us now," said Phumzile Mkhabela. Meanwhile, the operators said they also feel as though the confusion may be costing them some of their regular customers. They were quick however to say it was not for them to decide as they listened to what the owners told them. One of the companies that have branded local kombis are MTN Swaziland (Mobile Money) and an increase of Standard Bank branded Kombis have also been noted.

GARBAGE CHOKING THE COUNTRY HENCE INDABA - MINISTER

STORIES BY
THEMBEKA DLAMINI

With illegal garbage dumping reaching alarming proportions, the country has to use all available strategies to curb the threat to the environment.

Erstwhile Minister of Tourism and Environmental Affairs Jabulani Mabuza made this observation during an interview on Thursday evening.

Of note is that he was transferred to the ministry of commerce, industry and trade less than 24 hours after the interview. Seeing as the incoming minister is yet to be sworn in,

Mabuza's interview subsists.

He explained that the Waste Indaba, which will commence with regional meetings next week Monday, will look at ways of curbing pollution which makes the whole country look unsightly.

Minister Mabuza explained how solutions had to be home-grown for them to be fully functional as those which came from people intended to implement them were better appreciated and effective. He noted how dumping was not just an environmental concern as it was fast becoming a health issue as many communities stood to be affected by contamination stemming from hazardous waste strewn all over the place.

"The Waste Indaba is aimed at coming up with sustainable solutions for waste collection as well as recycling.

One of its many aims is ingraining the culture of disposing waste properly seeing as the country wastes a lot of money towards garbage collection whereas the solution would be proper dumping," Minister Mabuza said.

He called for stakeholders to attend the meetings in order to share their inputs to make the country realise its full potential.

He encouraged stakeholders interested in attending the Indaba as there were business opportunities in waste collection and recycling which the country is yet to tap into.

...Awards aimed at recognising contributors to keeping country clean

The inaugural Temvelo Awards, which mark the close of the Waste Indaba, are aimed at recognising those who have tirelessly contributed to the upkeep of the environment.

Minister Jabulani Mabuza said the awards were intended to encourage responsibility in taking care of the environment.

"Through the awards, we want to encourage responsible behaviour and further appreciate it," he said while encouraging entrants to the different categories to be nominated.

"It is time that Swazis get recognised for their positive contributions to society," he said. There will be 20 category winners as the awards have been structured to be inclusive of all sectors.



Fashion or rags?

As far as fashion goes, government principal secretaries are dumbfounded by the youthful look of ripped clothing.

Ripped clothing are torn methodically according to fashionable requirements making the item look well used before being sold to the public. In other instances, perfectly tailored clothing items are ripped or frayed after purchase by the owner in order to follow the latest fashion trend. However, trends now tend to go towards destroyed jeans; a term used for items which have huge chunks of fabric haphazardly cut out, which appeals greatly with the youth.

The topic of ripped jeans was brought up by Government Spokesperson Percy Simelane who jokingly commented about a journalist's dress code prior to the commencement of the press conference where the prime minister announced the latest cabinet reshuffle.

Simelane humorously asked

whether the female journalist had not been aware that she was going to the capital city and probed whether she was caught unaware of the trip hence the reason for her wearing jeans torn on the knees. He went on to ask whether he could approach her employers and request that they give her a salary increase seeing as she was dressed in rags.

"I will call him and tell him to increase your salary seeing as you can't afford to buy clothing," he said, while amusing all those present.

With all those in attendance breaking out in laughter, the PSs took up the topic led by ministry of public service's Evert Madlopha. He was talking to other PSs present.

He stated how one parent went to the extent of sewing up the ripped knee of her child's jeans after noting that they were torn, unaware that they were meant to be like that.

"Yi-fashion lenjani leledzabukile," he asked rhetorically



Madlopha's anecdote was closely followed by ministry of commerce, industry and trade's Jinnoh Nkambule who recalled how while one of his travels, an acquaintance gunned for a clothing rack with obviously ripped clothes during a shopping spree much to his distress.

He said he was shocked by the choice to get ragged clothes as opposed to well tailored cuts.

AWARDS CATEGORIES

1. Green Business Initiative Award

- a. Construction
- b. Manufacturing
- c. Retail
- d. Agriculture
- e. Finance
- f. Hospitality

Awarded to a business with systems or programme that is responsive to Green Economy.

2. Green Municipality

Awarded to a municipality that has achieved developing solutions using its risk assessment and management expertise, forming strategic partnerships to improve sustainability, as well as service delivery in municipal environment related functions.

3. Water Conservation Award

This award recognises and honour individuals or entities who dedicate themselves and their talents to the conservation and wise use of water.

4. Energy Efficiency Award

The award is for a product or service that results in energy saving.

5. Recycling and Waste Management Award

This award is for an entity that has developed a policy, programme or project that has contributed to a greater public understanding and participation in waste reduction, re-use and recycling.

6. Biodiversity Award

The award is for an entity that has a biodiversity protection and rehabilitation programme

7. Climate Change Award

This category recognises an individual or team who are champions for change, development, implementation, and institutionalisation of a sustainability practice to reduce the overall greenhouse gas footprint in support of the climate change goals. It will be awarded to an entity that has a responsive climate change related adaptation and/or mitigation measures.

8. Green Tertiary Institution Award

This award recognises a tertiary institution that has made an effort to educate and adopt the environmental agenda and has further taken the initiative to adopt practices thereto such as recycling, water harvesting, etc.

9. Eco- Primary School Award

The award is for a primary school that has made an effort to educate and adopt the environmental agenda and has further taken the initiative to adopt practices thereto such as recycling, water harvesting, etc.

10. Eco- Secondary School Award

This award is for a secondary school that has made an effort to educate and adopt the environmental agenda and has further taken the initiative to adopt practices thereto such as

recycling, water harvesting, etc.

11. Community Environmental Project Award

This award recognises a community that has acted collectively to protect, preserve, or restore the earth's life forms, eco-systems, or natural resources

12. Faith Based Organisation Award

For a faith based organisation contributing towards protecting and improving the environment.

13. Green Parastatal Award

This award is for parastatal with a sound and functional environmental programme.

14. Entrepreneur's Award

This award is for an environmentally friendly product or service that is sustainable and serves the needs of humans whilst being equally beneficial to the environment and its eco-systems.

15. Green Government Department Award

The award recognises a government department with a functional environmental programme.

16. Environmental Friendly Healthy Facility Award

- a. Hospital
- b. Health Centre
- c. Clinic

This award is for taking the lead in environmental stewardship and best practices for renovations, green procurement, cleaning, waste disposal and recycling, and provision of green spaces.

17. Media House Award

For media productions that increase public awareness of environmental issues and inspire action on these issues.

18. Environmental Journalist Award

The award is for a journalist, whose published articles represent the best reporting on the Earth's life forms, eco-systems, or natural resources.

19. Young Eco-Hero Award

This award will be given to a young individual who is passionate and have understanding of environmental issues and has the ability to inspire students or young people on matters of environmental management.

20. Lifetime Achievement Award

This award is for an individual, whose actions have conserved, nurtured, defended or restored the Earth's life forms, eco-systems, or natural resources

NOMINATION

Swaziland Environment Authority invites nominations from individuals, organisations and communities who exemplify leadership and advocate for protection of the environment in the country.

Persons may nominate themselves, their own organisations, or a third party whom they believe should receive recognition.

BRIEF

Algerian army kills 4 Islamists

ALGIERS - Four armed Islamists were killed on Friday in an Algerian army operation east of the capital, the country's defence ministry said. Soldiers killed the four "terrorists" during the operation in the Tizi Ouzou region, 110km east of Algiers, also seizing Kalashnikov-type weapons, a statement said. Algerian authorities use the term "terrorists" for armed Islamists who have been active in the North African state since a devastating civil war in the 1990s. This year, over 100 suspected Islamists have been killed in army operations in the east and south of the country, according to an AFP count compiled from official statements. **AFP**

Zambian police clash with opposition supporters

LUSAKA - A video showing Zambian police clashing with opposition leader Hakainde Hichilema's supporters has emerged on social media. According to reports, the clashes came after the United Party for National Development (UPND) supporters were denied entry into the police premises where Hichilema and his Vice President Geoffrey Mwamba had been detained. Hichilema and Mwamba were arrested on Wednesday in the country's Copperbelt region, after they allegedly attempted to visit party members detained in various prisons. They were both charged with "unlawful assembly" and "seditious practices". The two, however, pleaded not guilty to the charges and were released on bail on Thursday after spending a night in custody. **News24**

Six killed in clashes between rival Somali regions

MOGADISHU - At least six fighters were killed and nine others wounded in clashes on Friday between forces from two neighbouring administrations in northern Somalia, officials and witnesses said. Tensions between Puntland and Galmudug soared last month after Galmudug said a US strike aimed at Shabaab jihadists had in fact killed 13 of its soldiers. Galmudug authorities accused neighbouring Puntland of feeding the US false information that led to the air strike. Fighters from the two regions exchanged machine gun fire and fired anti-aircraft weapons on Friday in the town of Galkayo, which is divided between the two administrations and historically rival clans. **AFP**

Zim MP's snazzy 'flag' blazer gets him barred from parliament

HARARE - One guess as to what got up the Zimbabwe ruling party's nose about this snazzy blazer? Red, white, green, yellow and black: you got it. It looks a bit too much like Zimbabwe's national flag. Movement for Democratic Change legislator Trevor Saruwaka was refused entry to Parliament on Thursday for wearing this witty creation because it "resembled the national flag", he said on Facebook. Not that it wasn't supposed to, of course. Saruwaka (and his tailor) were undoubtedly making a point about Mugabe's party's fear of what until this year was a symbol of unquestioning support for the ageing president: the flag. The #ThisFlag anti-government movement, which started in April, has now made the flag a sign of brave opposition to everything Zanu-PF represents. So the government has revived legislation that makes it a crime to "abuse" the national flag. As lawyers have pointed out, it's been left up to the government to define what constitutes abuse. **News24**



SUNDAYOBSERVER AFRICA NEWS

The right place | The right Sunday

MUGABE HOLDS TALKS WITH MALAYSIAN PM RAZAK

HARARE - Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe has reportedly met and held talks with Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak in Malaysia.

Reports on Friday indicated that Mugabe, 92, was on a one-day surprise visit to the Southeast Asian country.

Malaysia's foreign ministry said it was the nonagenarian's first working visit to Malaysia since 2000, although he had previously visited Malaysia and Singapore for medical procedures. Mugabe's health has been increasingly under the spotlight in recent years.



Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe.

The veteran leader has, however, denied reports of ill health and vowed to stand for re-election in 2018.

According to state-owned

Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation (ZBC), Mugabe held bilateral talks with Razak in Putrajaya on Friday.

The two leaders discussed issues relating to bilateral co-operation between the two countries. "As developing countries, the two share similar views on the reform of the United Nations and the need for fair trade on the global arena," the report said.

New Zimbabwe reported on yesterday that Mugabe was accompanied by his wife Grace, Finance Minister Patrick Chinamasa and Transport Minister Joram Gumbo, among other officials. **News24**



Burundi's first deputy president, Gaston Sindimwo believes UN inquiry into human rights abuses is plot to destroy the country.

Burundi wants to quit ICC to avoid possible charges

NAIROBI - Burundi announced plans Friday to withdraw from the International Criminal Court (ICC), a week after the UN began an enquiry into human rights abuses committed since April 2015.

"It is perfectly clear that this is a plot to do harm to Burundi," said Gaston Sindimwo, Burundi's vice president, citing European Union "pressure" allegedly exerted on the UN, which opened a rights investigation a week ago.

According to a list seen by AFP, the UN investigation is targeting a dozen members of the governing regime, including General Alain-Guillaume Bunyoni, regarded as the second most powerful figure after President Pierre Nkurunziza.

In April, ICC Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda said she was conducting a "preliminary examination" of the situation in Burundi - the first step towards a full investigation and possible prosecutions - looking into allegations including murder, torture, rape and forced disappearances.

The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights said there was evidence of "widespread and systematic" rights violations and a risk of "genocide". **AFP**

France reopens probe into 1994 killing of Rwandan president

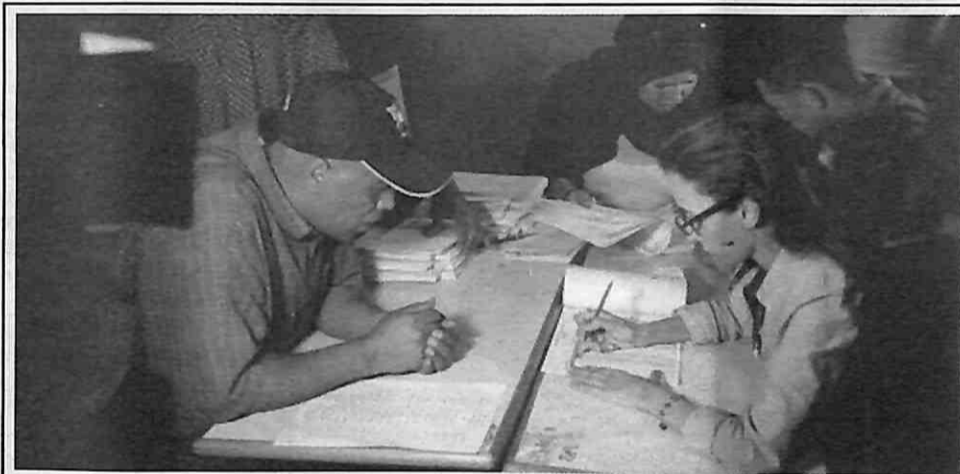
PARIS - French investigators have reopened their probe into the 1994 genocide-triggering assassination of a Rwandan president to question a dissident general who has accused the country's current head of state of orchestrating the killing. **AFP** learnt Friday.

After a French-crewed plane carrying Juvenal Habyarimana was shot down with a missile on April 6, 1994, a campaign targeting Rwanda's Tutsi population was unleashed. Within 100 days, some 800 000 people had been slaughtered.

The Rwandan former (1994-2002) army chief of staff whom French investigating magistrates want to question, Faustin Kayumba Nyamwasa, is in exile in South Africa, where he has survived at least two attempts on his life.

He is the subject of a previous French arrest warrant and has also been sentenced to 24 years in jail by a Rwandan court.

Like President Paul Kagame, he was a founder member of the rebel Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) which took power in the central African country in late 1994, putting an end to the genocide. **News24**



Officials count ballots after polls have been closed at a polling station in Rabat. According to the provisional results in Morocco, the Islamic Justice and Development Party (PJD) won the presidential elections.

Islamists win Morocco parliamentary elections

RABAT - The Islamist Justice and Development Party (PJD), which has headed Morocco's coalition government for the last five years, came top in parliamentary polls on Friday according to provisional results released by the Interior Ministry.

The Islamists took 99 seats while the liberal opposition Authenticity and Modernity Party (PAM) took 80, with 90

percent of the vote counted.

Istiqlal, the party which historically fought for independence from France, came in third place with 31 seats, followed by a number of smaller groups. Participation was at 43 percent, or roughly 6,750,000 voters. Interior Minister Mohamed Hassad said during a press conference in the capital Rabat.

He said the election was "transparent" and had gone well, rejecting accusations

from the PJD earlier in the day of voter fraud being carried out by authorities in favour of its liberal rivals.

Full results will be announced on Saturday but the PJD already has a comfortable lead and seems highly likely to head up the next government. The PJD came to power in 2011, months after massive, Arab Spring-inspired street protests prompted concessions from the monarchy. **AFP**

Ethiopia protesters target foreign investments

ADDIS ABABA - Ethiopia protesters target foreign investments

At least 11 companies, including textile and plastic factories, were torched in recent days in the town of Sebeta as well as about 60 vehicles, according to Fana, a state-controlled broadcaster, which blamed "anti-peace forces" for the attacks.

The Bishangari Lodge on the

shores of Lake Langano south of the capital Addis Ababa, one of the main tourist destinations in Oromia, was among the premises set alight.

"The lodge is completely destroyed. 100 percent burnt down," said a hotel employee who did not want to be named.

A Dutch fruit farm, AfricaJuice, was also ransacked this week in the south-eastern Awash Valley.

Oromo protesters blame for-

foreign investors for occupying land appropriated from them by the government and said they have had enough.

"The people have been protesting peacefully for almost a year. They didn't find any solutions from the government until now, but rather the killing has continued as we have seen at Ireecha festival," said Barnabas, a protester in the town of Holeta who gave only his first name. **AFP**



SUNDAYOBSERVER WORLD NEWS

The right place | The right Sunday

Hillary Clinton's Wall St speeches published by Wikileaks

WASHINGTON - Transcripts of private speeches by US Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton have been released by the whistle-blowing site Wikileaks.

In one of the extracts, Mrs Clinton told bankers that they were best-placed to help reform the US financial sector.

She also said she favoured "open trade and open borders". Mrs Clinton's main opponent, Donald Trump, has said he wants to renegotiate key trade deals.

Mrs Clinton had refused to publish the transcripts, from 2013 and 2014.

Her rival in the Democratic primaries, Bernie Sanders, had repeatedly called on her to release the text of her speeches, which are thought to have earned her about \$26m (£21m).

The excerpts include comments made at an event sponsored by Goldman Sachs in October 2013 in which Mrs Clinton spoke of the need to consult Wall Street over financial reform. "The people that know the industry better than anybody are the people who work in the industry," Mrs Clinton said. At another speech presented to a Brazilian bank in 2013, she spoke of her "dream" for a common trade market.

"My dream is a hemispheric common market, with open trade and open borders, some time in the future with energy that is as green and sustainable as we can get it, powering growth and opportunity for every person in the hemisphere," Mrs Clinton said. **BBC**

Russia accused of cyber-attacks to disrupt us election

WASHINGTON - US officials on Friday formally accused the Russian government of directing cyber-attacks "intended to interfere with the US election process," amid escalating tensions between the two powers.

The assertion against Russia comes with relations already frayed over stalled efforts to end violence in Syria, NATO defences and other differences.

A joint statement from the Department of Homeland Security and Office of the Director of National Intelligence was the first official accusation by Washington against Moscow in the spate of cyber-attacks, although many analysts had said the hacks appeared to be from Russia.

A US administration official said Washington would respond to the cyber-attacks, without offering details.

Interests

"We will take action to protect our interests, including in cyberspace, and we will do so at a time and place of our choosing," said an official shortly after the statement accusing Russia of cyber attacks.

The official statement said the US intelligence community "is confident that the Russian government directed the recent compromises of emails from US persons and institutions, including from US political organisations." The officials added: "We believe, based on the scope and sensitivity of these efforts, that only Russia's senior-most officials could have authorised these activities." **AFP**

CRISIS-PLAGUED TRUMP APOLOGISES FOR LEWD TALK ABOUT WOMEN

WASHINGTON - Donald Trump, facing the deepest crisis of his presidential campaign, apologised early on Saturday for crude and aggressively sexual remarks about women that he made in 2005, as criticism swelled from within his Republican Party.

The Republican nominee, in a shocking video released by The Washington Post Friday, was caught using vulgar language about groping and kissing women with impunity.

"I've said and done things I regret," he said in a televised apology, believed to be the first of his 16-month White House campaign. "Anyone who knows me knows these words don't reflect who I am. I said it, I was wrong, and I apologise." Trump was facing savage criticism after the



Donald Trump.

release of the video, which landed like a bombshell and gave his Democratic rival Hillary Clinton fresh ammunition to attack his misogyny as they prepared for their second presidential debate, on Sunday in St. Louis. "I've never said I'm a perfect person, nor pretended to be someone I'm not," Trump said. "I pledge to be a better man tomorrow." But major

damage was already done, with several fellow Republicans withdrawing their endorsements of Trump.

"I can no longer in good conscience endorse this person for president," Republican Congressman Jason Chaffetz of Utah told Fox. "It is some of the most abhorrent and offensive comments that you can possibly imagine."

Other Republicans reportedly including Congresswoman Barbara Comstock, Congressman Mike Coffman and former Utah Governor Jon Huntsman, who ran for president in 2012, demanded Trump exit the race.

In the video from 2005, obtained and released by The Washington Post, Trump uses extraordinarily vulgar and predatory language.

AFP

Horror in Haiti as hurricane toll soars

JEREMIE - The full scale of the devastation in hurricane-hit rural Haiti became clear on Friday as the death toll surged past 400, three days after Hurricane Matthew levelled huge swaths of the country's south.

As Matthew threatened the US coast, President Barack Obama urged Americans to mobilise in support of Haiti, where a million people were in need of assistance after the latest disaster to strike the western hemisphere's poorest nation.

While the capital and biggest

city, Port-au-Prince, was largely spared, the south suffered devastation.

Aerial footage from the hardest-hit towns showed a ruined landscape of metal shanties with roofs blown away and downed trees everywhere. Brown mud from overflowing rivers covered the ground.

Herve Fourcand, a senator for the Sud department, which felt the full force of Matthew's impact, said several localities were still cut off by flooding and mudslides.

A scene of desolation greeted visitors to Jeremie, a town of

30 000 people left inaccessible until Friday. No power. No phone lines. People cut off without news of the capital for days since the storm struck on Tuesday - and who had yet to hear that a presidential election due to take place this weekend has been postponed.

Virtually all the town's corrugated-iron homes have been destroyed, with only a few concrete buildings left standing.

"It was as if someone had a remote control and just kept turning the wind up higher and higher," said Carmine Luc, a 22-year-old woman. **AFP**



Romelus sits in her home destroyed in hurricane Matthew as she prepares tea in Jeremie, in western Haiti. The full scale of the devastation in hurricane-hit rural Haiti became clear as the death toll surged over 400, three days after Hurricane Matthew levelled huge swaths of the country's.

BRIEF

Rally ahead of decision on same-sex marriage vote

CANBERRA - Australia's centre-right coalition government introduced legislation to Parliament last month to hold a public vote in February 2017 on whether to legalise same-sex unions. However, those rallying in Melbourne and Sydney yesterday called for Parliament to legalise same-sex marriage without a plebiscite, which would cost a \$170 million (\$128.91 million) to conduct. Advocates of same-sex marriage are concerned public debate around the vote would prove harmful to members of the LGBTI community. **Reuters**

2 bombers, stopped by police, blew themselves up in Ankara

ANKARA - A Turkish official says two suicide car bombers have blown themselves up in the outskirts of Ankara after being stopped by police. Governor Erkan Topaca said the two bombers - a man and a woman - died in the incident yesterday outside a horse farm but no one else was hurt.

Topaca says the assailants are thought to be linked to the outlawed Kurdistan Workers Party, or PKK, which has carried out a series of suicide car bombings over the past year. **AP**

Uruguay urges Jihad Diyab to end hunger strike

MONTEVIDEO - Uruguay on Friday urged a former Guantanamo prisoner demanding to be reunited with his family to end a two-month-old hunger strike and said it was trying to transfer him to another country. Jihad Diyab, a Syrian national, was held for 12 years in the US military prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, without being charged and was released along with five other prisoners to Uruguay in 2014 to reduce the number of detainees. "We are calling on him to abandon his hunger strike and continue looking for a better future for him and his family," Uruguay's Foreign Minister, Rodolfo Nin Novoa, said at a news conference. **Reuters**

Obama jokes about his date of birth as he casts an ballot for US election

UNITED NATION - US President Barack Obama is using a return to his hometown of Chicago to cast an early ballot in this November's US election. Obama's motorcade stopped at the Cook County Office Building after he had completed speaking at a fundraiser for Democratic House candidates. As he filled out a form for his vote, he asked one worker: "What's my date of birth? 8/4/81?" "I was just shaving a couple of decades off," Obama said. Obama has been encouraging people in speeches and radio interviews to register to vote and to get to the polls. **Telegraph**

One in five employees face 'death from overwork' in Japan

Tokyo - A fifth of the Japanese workforce faces the risk of death from overwork, according to a new government survey into the country's notoriously strenuous working culture. Hundreds of deaths related to overwork - from strokes, heart attacks and suicide - are reported every year in Japan, along with a host of serious health problems, sparking lawsuits and calls to tackle the problem. The survey was part of the nation's first white paper on "karoshi", or death from overwork, endorsed by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's Cabinet on Friday. **Reuters**

Focus on SA scene



Winnie Madikizela-Mandela.

Winnie Mandela's nephew in court for stealing from her

JOHANNESBURG - The nephew of Winnie Madikizela-Mandela was remanded in custody after he appeared in court.

Zolile Madikizela, 30, appeared at the Orlando Magistrate's Court on Thursday on charges of theft and housebreaking.

He was arrested at his home in Orlando after a case was opened by an employee of Madikizela-Mandela and a warrant of arrest was issued. Hawks spokesperson Captain Ndivhuwo Mulamu said police are investigating two cases. "He is accused of stealing a laptop amounting to R5,000 and a plasma TV at the home of Madikizela-Mandela and designer bags estimated at R100,000," she said. Mulamu said it had not been brought to the Hawks' attention that the nephew had stolen Madikizela-Mandela R83,000 birthday cash gift. He is expected to appear in court on October 13. *eNCA*

No amicable solutions yet on #FeesMustFall

JOHANNESBURG - The Wits University council met this weekend to thrash out a way forward and save the academic year.

The executive team said it's committed to completing the 2016 year and will announce its decision today.

The university called off a General Assembly at the last minute on Friday.

It was widely expected the meeting would bring an end to the student protests that've gone on for over three weeks.

For a general assembly to be convened, all parties must agree on specific terms.

But the institution said consensus was reached with all constituencies except the striking students.

Meanwhile, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan tomorrow University will no longer open its doors as planned.

After Friday's protests, the university said it could not guarantee the safety of students. The campus will stay closed indefinitely.

The Cape Peninsula University of Technology will hold its general assembly on Monday. CPUT had announced an eight percent increase for next year to the students who can afford it.

"While no firm resolutions were taken, we are pleased that both staff and students showed that an engagement of this kind is possible. Classes remain suspended although the university is open," the university said in a statement. *eNCA*

TIPS FOR PRAVIN ROLL IN AHEAD OF MINI-BUDGET

CAPE TOWN - Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan's invitation for suggestions on how to fund university education was quickly taken up with ideas pouring on to the Treasury's Facebook page. "Cut the spending on the army, don't allow the president to buy a new plane," wrote Marius Greeff.

"Performance based on Grade 12 results. 80% - 90%+ = free year education. 50%, 60% and 70%+ prorated. Can be a point based system," wrote Sue MacDermott Geyser.

Siphamandla Lukhele's contribution included: "...The money the Government is going spend on an unnecessary



Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan.

nuclear deal can fund free education for up to 15 years, so please reprioritize!"

Gordhan issued the invitation to comment on the Treasury's Facebook page ahead of his Medium Term

Budget Policy Statement (MTPBS), also known as the mini-budget, on October 26.

In a statement released on Friday, the Treasury said that in the light of the global economy and South Africa's own financial issues, Gordhan in particular wanted public views on:

- Funding of free tertiary education;
- How South Africa can achieve inclusive economic growth;
- How South Africa can use its resources to ensure efficiencies; and
- How the government, civil society, unions and business can work together to achieve the country's economic objectives. *News24*

Tutu wants option of assisted death

CAPE TOWN - South African retired Anglican archbishop and anti-apartheid icon Desmond Tutu celebrated his 85th birthday on Friday saying he would like to be allowed the option of dignified assisted death.

"Today, I myself am even closer to the departures hall than arrivals, so to speak, and my thoughts turn to how I would like to be treated when the time comes," Tutu wrote in an op-ed published in The Washington Post.

"I have prepared for my death and have made it clear that I do not wish to be kept alive at all costs," said Tutu, who was discharged from hospital late last month.

"I hope I am treated with compassion and allowed to pass on to the next phase of life's journey in the manner of my choice," he wrote.

Tutu, who is fondly referred to as the Arch, has spent time in hospital on several occasions since last year for a nagging infection. One reason for his hospitalisation has been an



Anglican archbishop and anti-apartheid icon Desmond Tutu.

infection resulting from the prostate cancer treatment he has been receiving for nearly 20 years. "Now more than ever, I feel compelled to lend my voice to this cause," he said.

"For those suffering unbearably and coming to the end of their lives, merely knowing that an assisted death is open to them can provide immeasurable comfort."

Medically-assisted suicide or voluntary euthanasia is illegal in South Africa, but in recent

years there have been growing calls for it to be legalised.

Early on Friday, Tutu presided over eucharist at his home church in Cape Town, an AFP photographer witnessed. He paid a moving tribute to St George's Cathedral before laying his head on the communion table and briefly wept.

"I have indicated that when the time comes I would like to rest here, permanently, with you," he told the worshippers.

Tutu, who became the first black Anglican archbishop of Cape Town in 1986, had a cup of tea with worshippers after the Friday morning service.

President Jacob Zuma and the last apartheid leader F.W. de Klerk led tributes to Tutu.

In a statement Zuma said Tutu "has contributed immensely to the freedom and democratic dispensation" of South Africa.

"He continues to inspire the nation and the world in the promotion of human rights, justice and the wellbeing of all especially the poor," said Zuma. *News24*

Woman caught trying to leave SA with almost R15m

JOHANNESBURG - A woman was caught trying to leave South Africa with almost R15m in US dollars on Friday, SARS said.

She was trying to board a flight to Dubai at OR Tambo International Airport, the revenue service said in a statement.

Customs officials asked her

to declare \$1.08m million (R14.9m) found in her two checked-in bags. She could not explain the origin of the money.

She then allegedly tried to bribe two customs officials with R1 million. They turned her offer down.

She was handed to police and the cash was confiscated.

South African Reserve Bank regulations only allow an individual to leave the country with R25 000 in foreign currency or rand.

Anything over that has to be declared, and supporting documents from an authorised forex trader have to be produced.

News24

Threat to remove CPUT students 'a lie', - activist

CAPE TOWN - A threat that students at the Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT) would be chased out of their residences is a hoax, a student leader told *News24* on Saturday, after a tumultuous week of university protests.

"That is a lie," the activist said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

An extract of a note read: "The leaders right now are busy instructing the house parents to remove everyone from the rooms and will be given master keys to open the doors, after everyone has left the residents, they will be locked and no one will have access till strikers come back" (sic).

The activist said students are upbeat at the moment, and are acting in good faith after an agreement on Friday with Vice Chancellor Dr Prins Nevhutalu that some suspended students will be allowed to return to the campus in Bellville.

There is also a possibility classes could resume next week, but this will be discussed fully among students there, he added.

On Friday the institution also announced that students whose family income was higher than R600 000 - 10% of the students there - would pay 8% more to study in 2017.

The university will run a R94m deficit under this model, Nevhutalu said.

Student countrywide have been protesting since September 19, when Higher Education Minister Blade Nzimande announced that universities could decide their own fee increases for 2017, but they had to be capped at 8%. Students from families with an income less than R600 000 a year would not pay the increase. The protesting students have been demanding completely free education, and have included other demands and issues over the past three weeks. These include a decolonised curriculum and at CPUT free sanitary towels, among other demands. The latest demand by CPUT students is that Nevhutalu step down. A meeting on Friday ended when Nevhutalu left for a pressing appointment, to the annoyance of the students gathered. A meeting between students and management was expected to be held on tomorrow to discuss resuming lectures, the activist said. *News24*

Student wants to use NMMU zebras as 'hostages'

PORT ELIZABETH - A Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University student threatened to take the university's zebras hostage as the Fees Must Fall movement and management continue to clash over the reopening of the university.

The university's main campus was declared a private nature reserve in 1983.

The reserve covers 830 hectares and is dominated by the St Francis Dune Thicket vegetation with a wide variety of animals.

The "threat" was initially made in a voice note circulated on Thursday evening after the university announced that it would be reopening campus on Friday to prepare for classes to resume tomorrow.

"I think it's time to go take those zebras, capture those zebras. Every day we take one zebra and we will tell management if you don't do what we are telling you, we will deal with these zebras accordingly. Amandla," the student said in the voicenote.

The notion quickly spread on social media, with students posting comments and generating memes targeting the zebras and suggesting that the animals should be braaied to feed the protesting students. *News24*

SundayObserver Scene

THE DREAMCHASER ISSUE

SYMPHONY, THE BALL ON FIRE

COMPILED BY: Lungelo Nkambule | SUB-EDITING BY: Futhie Dlamini

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○ Lungelo Nkambule
WRITER'S NOTE: ○

THE SOIREE REVIEW

One of the greatest packs of this job is that on a daily basis you meet different people with varying attitudes and on paths.

With each interview, you learn a new thing.

This week we interviewed two phenomenal human beings Temie Motha and Khulekani 'Karly B' Mamba. These two people took a bold decision to follow their passion and make careers out of it, a move not many can take. Karly B is one of the veterans of the deejaying industry and he has managed to stay relevant. Many have come into and left him in the industry and he has managed to stay and remain significant throughout different seasons. He attributes his staying power to his passion for Deejaying.

He says he did not join the industry because he wanted fame but because he was passionate about the craft. Read more on Karly B and Temie on page 3 and 4 respectively.

The soiree has been described by hip hop fanatics in the country as a game changer. Zolile Motsa aka 80Script who was the headline act at the show gave a beautiful performance and kept the audience on their feet.

The humble, rapper on the night proved why people like Aspire Editor Sibusiso Dlamini refer to him as the king of hip hop in the country.

Sibusiso who couldn't miss the event for anything in the world, brings us a review of the show. If you were not at the show for whatever reason read more on this very page on what went down at the convention centre last week.

On our back page, we bring you more pictures from the Redemption Story DVD Live recording.

The choir, after years of absence, relaunched themselves and they gave a sterling performance. It was a beautiful night of praise, worship and dance. The choir was joined by former lead vocalists Mayibongwe Mthimkhulu and JB, amongst others. The performance that had many talking was by Inkhosikati LaMbikiza's collaboration with South African gospel sensation Mahalia.

We hope that you will find our section interesting and would like to hear from you. Send us feedback to

scene@observer.co.sz
Till next week. Bless!!!

BY SBUSISO DLAMINI

1. **DRESS CODE** – Oh my, oh my. I am impressed or what with our dear Swazis. Yes, I am.

People actually read their tickets and came dressed in evening wear. This was fairly well done and befitting of a show of its caliber. Classic things indeed, levels as a friend of mine would say, and the show will probably be in scripted on our entertainment history books as the very first to ever get Swazis down in such a sophisticated manner.

SCORE – 9/10

2. **TIME KEEPING** – Poor! Now, I know the reason we were given is to blame it on the rain, because the sound couldn't be brought down from Mbabane, I am not impressed. Even with suits and ties on we still continue with our Swazi tendencies that lead to poor products.

SCORE – 5/10

3. **SOUND** – The DJ was a bore. Whoever he was. Every artist complained and King Terry even went as far as complaining after his performance was interrupted by Rihhana's song. Imagine!

DJ – 3/10

4. **PERFORMANCES**

• **Drewback** – This was the very first time I saw the guy on stage and I have to say he didn't pitch to the party, considering the stage the boy was in. When the crowd demanded freestyle, he should have given it to them. Didn't you check the prize tickets son? That money doesn't fall from the trees, so please make your performance worth it next time. I would advise him to practice more, work more bra, but then at least you had the young lady by the name of Njabu who came through to save your day. That 'doggy dogg' jam is still in my memory bank, and is the one that showed glimpses of brilliance in Drewback's performance. Njabu, what a talent she is! She better take her art seriously.

Score – 6/10

• **King Terry** – I was so excited when he came to the stage because I have been looking forward to seeing him for quite some time, and he also wasn't at the standard I thought he was at. You can see the passion when he performs, but unfortunately his performance lacked the spark to ignite life in the crowd. He also had problems with the Disk Jockey, but I saw a better crowd at the after party during his performance, or was it just the squad? Anyways – satisfactory is my final conclusion. Just a performance. Nothing special to remember the next morning about it.

SCORE – 7/10

• **Mdura** – Our very own funny

Revolutionary, an absolute game changer.

Those are a few words that come to mind which can be used to describe the show headlined by one rapper that I've always said to be the current King in the game – Zolile Motsa, affectionately known by his stage name of 80 Script.

Now, the show was a first of its kind in our local hip hop scene and albeit the idea being a perfect ten out of ten, the execution didn't go without flaws. So, SCENE is always about standards and levels, hence it is my privilege to give you a review of what went down at arguably the most anticipated show on the land the past week.



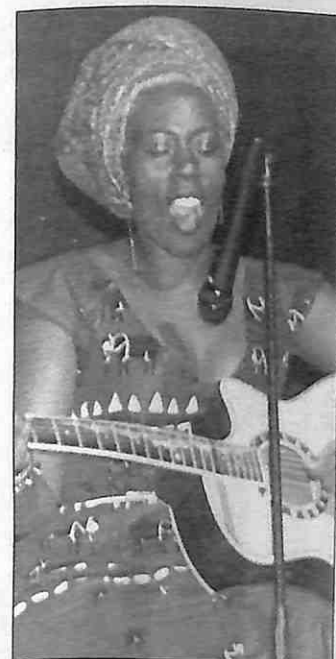
Socialite Banele Mansoor, Velemseni and Mdura posing for our lenses after the show.



guy was there and boy did he bring his funniness with him!

I'm sure Elfoe is still not happy about Mdura's performance this past week. This guy is really good guys, and trust me I'm not the easiest to convince. It was a masterpiece from 80Script to bring him through. That's what builds an industry. The love and respect between the different arts. Big ups to the funny guy, keep those jokes coming. SCORE – 9/10

• **Velemseni** – That voice of yours madam. Too good. And the fact that you supported another player in the industry, who is trying to break some ground and not claim it, is a plus. I may not be a huge fan of your genre, neh let me just be brutally honest, I don't listen to it, as of yet, I suppose. I think I'm still too young, but I will admit that your performance gave me goosebumps. It was a very good night



on the stage for the Waterford alumni.

SCORE – 8/10

• **80 Script** – It was the time for the main man. We had waited patiently and in baited breath for this performance and it came in. The night was finally lit. We finally had more than half of the people at the venue up from their seats. That 'yaya' track will definitely be a hit once the album is out. 80, would you please give it to us now? It would have been very nice to scoop it after the show and 'yaya' all my way to the Pub and Grill for the after party. I still think you did very well but you I noticed that some parts of the songs had you struggling, but once you got in your groove, you held it down.

The only reason why he won't be getting a ten out of ten is because of that Nasty C jam that you performed. Why? Would he do the same thing for you, or are you secretly collaborating with the 'Jijji Jigga' 80? Because, if that's not the case, then there wasn't need for that. People paid to see you, you gave them an exhilarating performance, and then out of the blue, you request some of that Nasty. But why? In conclusion, the talent of 80Script was in the spotlight and he proved once again to be the best. Beams!

SCORE – 9.5/10

It was generally a good day for a good time, and we still have to take our hats off to the young lad who made this show possible, and hope that he and his management learn from their mistakes.

I saw that the Swazi Jive crew was also present – Tendane was there dabbling with their communications lady Noxy, and Adrienne Foo from the same family was also present although I have to admit it would have been very nice to see her on stage. I also saw Pyscolution, another act I wish was on stage. If you were on the comfort of your bed whilst we were at the SORRIER, make sure you don't do that mistake again, ever!

SOCIAL SCENE

Social Media Watch

The most beautiful thing about our country minus the people is our culture. Our culture is the one thing that has many envying us and that attracts many on to our shores.

The tourism industry is always recording high numbers during cultural events like the Incwala and Umhlanga.

Different people come into the country to witness the events for different reasons but the point is they visit the country.

The past months the doek has become a huge fashion statement and Swazis refusing to be left behind have used their Swazi *lihiya* as a fashion statement and

are using it as a doek. I am one of the many Swazis who have been donning the *lihiya* as a doek.

What amazes me though is how the *lihiya* is fast becoming a fashion hit and not just on our shores but everywhere.

There is a campaign by one eating outlet in the country that persuades people to take people to take selfies in their *lihiya* and people have responded positively to this campaign.

There is also a fashion line by our former editor Koko Shabangu called "*atibuye emasweni*" the line has also received a nod from different fashion corners and she recently



took to an Ethiopian runway where it received massive applaud. Controversial tv personality, newspaper columnist, South African



entertainer also posted a picture of herself on instagram donning a Swazi *lihiya*.

This shows the *lihiya* is a beautiful

accessory and it is heartwarming to see something that is ours taking the fashion industry by storm.

KING B WORKING HIS WAY TO THE TOP

He is one of the most versatile and veterans in the deejaying industry. Khulekani Mamba known to his fans as Dj Karly B is one of the few individuals who have made deejaying work for them. He started off as band member of redemption mass choir and quickly grew his brand as a deejay.

Khulekani, who is constantly working towards building an empire in the entertainment industry, is also the proud founder of Platinum Sounds, an event management and sound hire company.

Khulekani is the force behind many projects, including Rhymes and Laughter and Y'ello Sunday entertainment. Khulekani has built his company from scratch and is giving well established businesses in the sector a run for their money.

His followers will know that not long ago he was battling a very serious illness but because of his never say die attitude he rose above it. Khulekani, or rather Karly B, is a proper definition of a hustler. A hustler can be defined as a person who never lets anything get in the way of his dream and keeps his or her eye on the goal.

He is one of the few in the entertainment industry to stick it out and to make it work for them. When we spoke to him he said he was inspired by the likes of Black Coffee that took their passion and made millions out of it. Karly B is not just a deejay but he is also a Diploma in Commerce holder.

He aspires to be the sound and events management provider in the country. He is also a God-fearing man and he says if he can be half the man his father is then he would have done well for himself.

The young men really looks up to his father. When he speaks about his father his face brightens up. Khulekani is also a huge fan of local talent and is involved in many projects that empower young and upcoming local artists. His belief is those ahead must help those who are still trying to break into the entertainment industry.

We met with the hustling king and asked him questions that we hope will give our readers an insight to the kind of person Khulekani is away from the deejaying booth. This is how the interview went:

What would be harder for you, to tell someone you love them or that you do not love them back?

The latter is the hardest for me. Telling someone you love them isn't such a big deal because it won't hurt them instead it will make them happy. However when you have to tell them the latter it becomes harder. I feel If the best way to do it, is to just show them you are not there anymore or just buy her a PS chocolate with the message.

What do you think would be the hardest thing for you to give up on? LIFE...I have experienced so much that could have potentially forced me to let go, but I just can't see myself giving up. I am not the type that gives up it's just not in my DNA.

Would you give a homeless person CPR if they were dying? I know the right answer for this one is yes but I doubt I would be able.

What makes you bored? Doing the same thing over & over again. One of

the reasons I would never have been a teacher.

Tell me about something or someone you miss the most from childhood? If would have been X-stacy owing to our childhood memories ,but since school has brought him closer, I can't think of anyone Else .

Are you usually late, early or right on time? The business I run has taught me to respect time being a little early always has its advantages.

Are you happy with your life for the most part right now? I wouldn't say happy ...but content is more like It. It could be better though and with each day I am working towards it being better.

Choose one of the following things: trust or love? Trust. No matter how much I love you, if I don't trust you then it's all in vain.

Who is the one person you envy? BLACK COFFEE. The guy is living his dream, turned his passion into a career. Now look at where he is, you can't help but appreciate.

What was the worst punishment you had when you were a child? I was once suspended for six weeks in high school for fighting with a teacher. I was in Form 3 and about to write



my external exams, the Mamba thing that they always refer to had taken over.

Name 3 things in nature you find most beautiful: Waterfalls, waterfalls and hmmm more waterfalls.

What do you do in your free time? Free time? Is there anything like that? I know not of free time, my line of work doesn't allow me to be free, the hustle is always on.

Which is your favourite part of the human body and why? It has to be the eyes. I get to see and appreciate all of God's creation.

What are the last 4 digits in your cellphone number? 1874

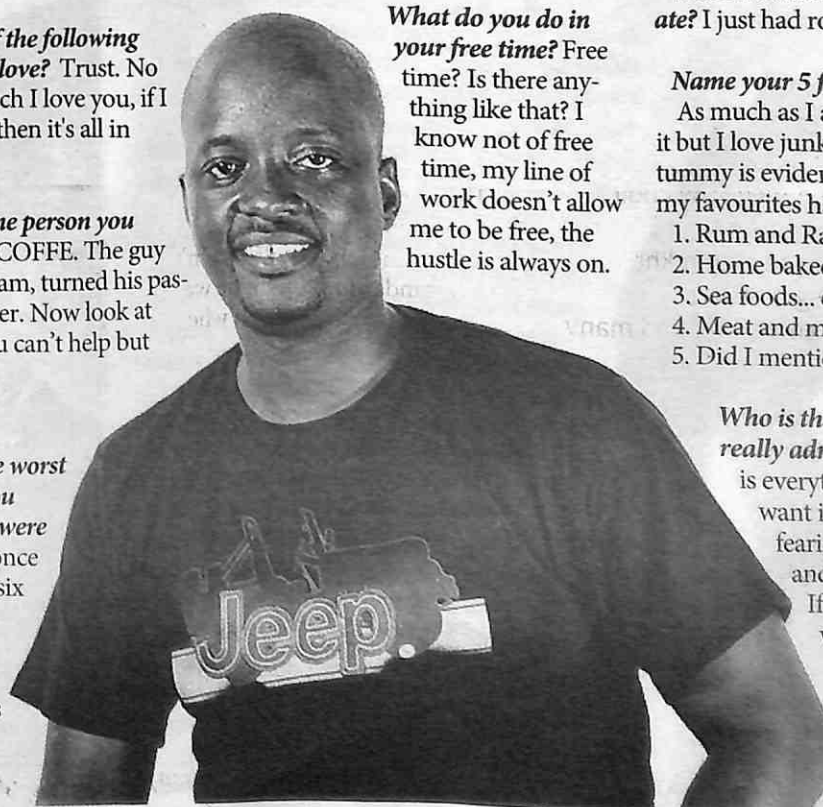
What was the last thing you ate? I just had roasted mealies.

Name your 5 favourite foods.

As much as I am not proud of it but I love junk food and my big tummy is evidence of this fact so my favourites have to be

1. Rum and Raisin Ice cream
2. Home baked cake
3. Sea foods... especially prawns
4. Meat and more meat
5. Did I mention cake?

Who is the one person you really admire? My dad...he is everything I can ever want in a father; God fearing, full of wisdom and very supportive. If I can be half of what my father is I will have done well for myself.



BREAKING BARRIERS, INFILTRATING

She was MC at the first of its kind Soiree which was held at the Royal Swazi Spa Convention Centre last week Friday.

She had the audience eating out of her hands with her amazing MCing skills. Many wondered who she is because she is not a familiar face on Swazi soil. Temie Motha is a young Swazi stylist based in neighbouring South Africa.

She left the country at a tender age but she did not forget where she came from. "Swaziland is home," she said.

The petite stylist took the courageous decision in her teens to follow her passion. She says her love for passion and desire for playing around with clothes is what pushed her into the business of styling. She says the important thing was to set goals for yourself and then work hard towards accomplishing it.

Temie is a perfect example of a dreamchaser. Whilst in the country she made time to sit down with us and explain things. This is what she had to say:

Temie (21) is an ambitious young girl who loves the outdoor; she is hard working and believes there is no obstacle she cannot overcome. I think of myself just like every other girl cool calm and collected and who still gets heartbroken, unfortunately," she said. The God-fearing stylist said she is inspired by hardworking people especially her mom.

"My mom is my inspiration. She taught me that no matter how tough things get, press on," she said.

Temie Motha is a young Swazi stylist based in neighbouring South Africa. She is busy on a project called "MakeTemieGreat" which is House Of Zanna which is her clothing line



CAREER

Temie says for her there was no other career she could choose other than styling.

"Fashion has always been my dream and ultimate career path, clothing excites me and allows me to look anyway at any time. So since my mother was not all for my love for fashion I then decided I could do something that does not require me to study forever but do what I love and styling was it," she told SCENE.

She further said it was unfortunate that styling was still not considered a career in the country when in actual factor it had the potential to make one a lot of money.

"Styling in the country has not really been a sought career path and has not yet been explored and tapped into so it is so exciting to bring to life clothing we wear on a daily basis.

Styling in Swaziland can be a huge market if only people shared the love of fashion, but fear not because Temie is around," she laughed. Temie is busy on a project called "MakeTemieGreat" which is House Of Zanna which is her clothing line. "We sell the latest and trendiest clothing for the season and we also style artists for music videos, and photoshoot and I'm also a personal shopper so if malling and clothing is not your thing I gladly do it on your behalf.

House Of Zanna is currently pushing out African printed clothing and our first outfit was worn by myself this weekend at the Soiree. Also growing my TV personality a lot currently working on a show Good Morning Africa that is airing in 45 different african countries, then I also party to make money which is MC-

ing," she explained.

Temie said what she loved most about her job is that she interacted with many different people and amongst many celebrities she had worked with Wizkid, CassperNyovest, Diamond Platinumz, PaletiSegapo, Emtee and Nasty C.

LEAVING SWAZILAND

"I left Swaziland when I was 6yrs old, and simply because my parents moved to Johannesburg and of course I had to move along with them," she said. She said she did not see herself coming back into the country on a fulltime basis but because she was penetrating other markets.

"I don't see myself coming back home on a fulltime basis but I would love to work with local stylists and potential clients in the country. I am currently infiltrating countries like Nigeria, Ghana, and East Africa," she narrated. Temie further said she wanted to work with other stylists in the country because she believed that there was always something to learn from the next person.

FUTURE

Temie insisted that as much as she did not see herself coming back home in the near future, she was real interested in working with Swazi stylists.

"The dream is to uplift and empower Swazi's who share the same vision as me. We will do it together looking fabulous in our 8 inch stilettos, the higher the heels the closer we are to our dreams," she said.

She said attending the Soiree had motivated her on many levels because it is through the show that she realised the potential the country had.

"After the Soiree I have to say the amount of talent in Swaziland is absolutely amazing, the entertainment industry can most definitely take over by storm, there is no difference between other artists and artists in Swaziland and they just need to believe in themselves as much as we believe in them. The same goes for Swazi stylists," she said.



Zanele 'Symphony' Cele; the ball of fire

Amazing is her voice, amazing is her character. She never fails to impress. Excellence is her middle name, well her other middle name. Below are the different faces and expressions that come out of her whenever she grabs a microphone.

She has been performing on quite many different stages in the country. Just last week she was deep in worship at the spring time praise event held at Sibane Hotel. Her bold voice ignored the cold and filled the room with loud shouts of praise.

Her name is Symphony and she is simply amazing. She is by no doubts a dream chaser. Her first break into the music industry was when she made it through to the top five of the T55 national talent search. During the competition she oozed too much confidence and talent the whole country thought she would take the grand prize home. Not winning that competition did not define her strengths as she rose above it and now everywhere, every corner there is Symphony singing her lungs out.

She says what's next on her artistic plans is a launch of her brand and an EP. Keep your ears on the ground. **By Nomfundo Sifundza**



THE WORLD!!



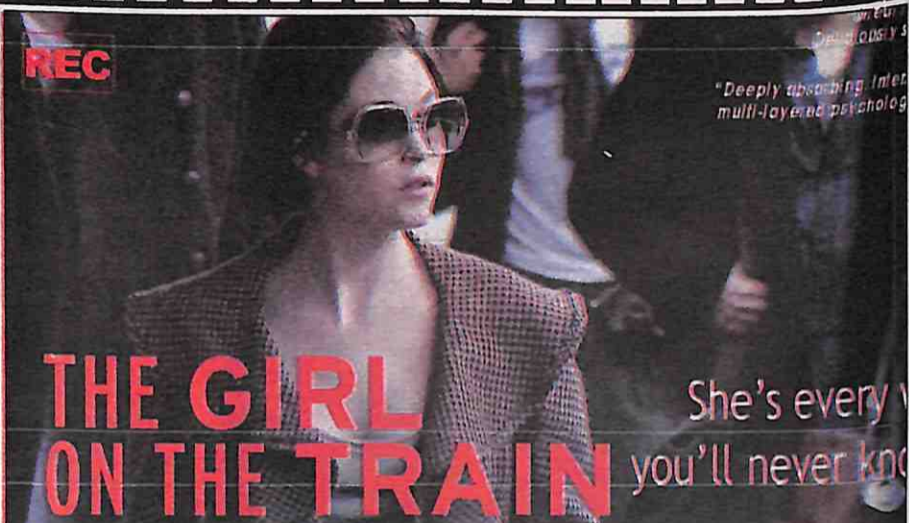
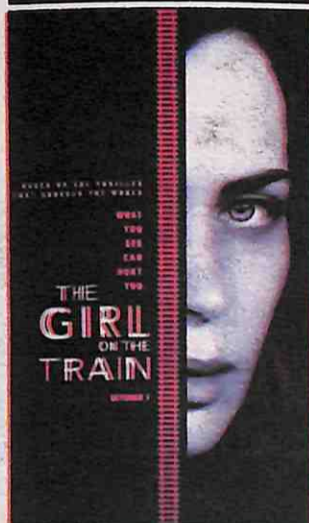
"Fashion has always been my dream and ultimate career path, clothing excites me and allows me to look anyway at any time. So since my mother was not all for my love for fashion I then decided I could do something that does not require me to study forever but do what I love and styling was it"



Movie Review

THE GIRL ON THE TRAIN

Available in Theatres



The allure of "The Girl on the Train" was never the whodunit element of Paula Hawkins' hugely popular page-turner. It was the way in which Hawkins bounced around with time and narration between a trio of toxic women, all of whom were struggling with the increasing difficulty of maintaining the finely tuned facades they'd presented to the world.

There's Rachel, who gives the book its title. Once a happily married publicist, she now looks longingly out the window as she commutes to and from the city twice a day, fantasizing about the seemingly perfect suburban lives she passes while sneaking sips of vodka to fend off the shakes.

There's Megan, the pretty blonde who lives in one of those comfortable houses. Working at an art gallery is one of the many ways this frequent liar and runaway has reinvented herself; she has a handsome husband and a cushy existence but she's restless and ready for another escape.

Then there's Anna, who's now married to Rachel's ex-husband and the mother of his infant daughter. Coincidentally, she also happens to live in Rachel's old house. But while she wallows smugly in maternal bliss, she's also bored and longs for the exciting, old days of being The Other Woman.

With each chapter, Hawkins peeled away the layers of these characters, revealing their flaws and fears and providing varying (and often unreliable) perspectives as the novel's torrid events unfolded. Not unlike "Gone Girl"—to which it invariably will draw comparisons as a juicy exploration of violence and mystery in genteel suburbia—"The Girl on the Train" is good trash. At least as a novel, it is.

As a film, however, it's not even that. It's just a flat and suspense-free tale of pretty people in peril. And not only is the whodunit part of the film not all that intriguing (or surprising), neither are the characters swirling around each other until that big revelation comes to light. Tate Taylor



blandly directs Erin Cressida Wilson's adapted screenplay, which condenses these three women into a handful of traits rather than allowing them to be difficult and interesting.

Taylor, who previously played it just as safe with his breakthrough film "The Help," doesn't alternate between these characters with the necessary fluidity or tension. (His underrated "Get on Up," featuring an electrifying performance from Chadwick Boseman as James Brown, had far more verve.) The story comes together in pieces rather than jelling as a dynamic whole. And because these women have been so oversimplified, there's more of an emphasis on the fact that they've all been defined by and/or reliant on men. That wasn't necessarily true on the page, which seems especially unfortunate given that the novel "The Girl on the Train" ultimately is about women standing up for themselves, fighting together and finding their own identities.

And yet, there is Emily Blunt, fighting as best she can to make Rachel complicated and compellingly damaged. The story has been moved from the outskirts of London to the leafy hamlets along the Hudson River in Westchester County, New York, but Blunt maintains her British accent. It makes Rachel an outsider from the start, and her near-constant, bleary-eyed inebriation exacerbates her loneliness and isolation. In the book,

Rachel is puffy and frumpy; Blunt is anything but. She's game for the showiness of the role, though, with its raging nights and remorseful days.

Rachel once had it all. Now she obsesses over the lives of others as she spies them from the train. Megan (Haley Bennett) is her main target, kissing and canoodling with her hunky husband, Scott (Luke Evans). Rachel projects all her dreams onto them; meanwhile, a couple of houses away, Anna (Rebecca Ferguson) also seems to be living a dream life with Rachel's ex-husband, Tom (Justin Theroux).

Conveniently, Megan happens to have been their nanny. But then suddenly, she goes missing—and Rachel believes a glimpse of something she saw from the train might provide a crucial piece of information about her fate. Rachel also wonders whether she might have played a role herself, since she was blackout-drunk the night it happened. So she inserts herself into their lives and into the police investigation (Allison Janney is the much-needed voice of reason as the annoyed lead detective). Her stalking tendencies extend to Megan's therapist (Edgar Ramirez), who's trotted out as one of many possible suspects in her disappearance.

Rachel's behavior seemed sad in its clingy desperation in the book, and the fact that she was grasping at wisps of her own alcohol-addled memory for clues made her a sympathetic figure. But in the movie, everything happens so quickly that her actions merely come off as bizarre and unintentionally funny. A couple instances of her running through the woods prompted giggles during the screening I attended, when Taylor probably was going for thrills and suspense.

Also oddly, the men in the equation are afforded even less characterization, even though they're the ones who dictate how the women feel about themselves. And so when "The Girl on the Train" finally answers the question of whodunit—reliably, for once—the result is more of a shrug than a shock.



Terry Pheto shines at London movie premier

On Wednesday night, Mzansi actress Terry Pheto turned heads when she attended the movie premier of *A United Kingdom* in London.

The actress wore a big, colourful Marianne Fassler dress and she had an amazing 'African queen' glow. Terry and the talented Vusi Kunene star in the movie based on a true story

about a Botswana royal family - the Khomas. Vusi plays the character of Seretse's uncle, Tshekedi Khama and Terry plays the character of Seretse's sister, Naledi Khama. David Oyelowo plays the character of Seretse Khama, who brought the world to a stand still when he married a white bank clerk in 1948, at a time where interracial marriages were illegal.

Daily Sun

Bonang throws AKA surprise party

Mzansi's 'it girl' Bonang Matheba threw her bae, AKA, a surprise dinner party on Monday night at the

Saxon Hotel in Sandton. Queen B gathered a group of AKA's close friends to celebrate Super Mega's GQ cover.

CELEBRITYNEWS BRIEFS



Beyoncé strolls through the Big Apple looking like a candy-coated dream

Beyoncé, our human angel, was practically floating as she strolled down the streets of Manhattan on Wednesday afternoon. The singer, who will be wrapping up her Formation world tour at MetLife Stadium in New Jersey on Friday, looked like a candy-coated dream in a pink and silver striped skirt complete with a matching butterfly sweater and Gucci hat. Beyoncé's casual outing comes a month after she attended Budweiser's Made in America Festival in Philadelphia with husband Jay Z, and although she's been keeping a low profile, she did celebrate her 35th birthday with a star-studded Soul Train-themed bash in September.

Angelina's filing for divorce strategic

Brad Pitt was likely left blindsided by Angelina Jolie's filing for divorce, says top lawyer and certified family law specialist Leena Hingnikar, from Walzer Melcher LLP, otherwise known as the powerhouse law firm Katie Holmes used in her divorce from Tom Cruise. Leena tells Personal Space that high-profile couples involved in celebrity divorces, like Brangelina, will often work to release a joint statement together to make it appear that things are under control, everything is amicable, and that the kids come first. Separate statements, separate lives, she says. "If he wasn't blindsided they would have released a joint statement," she explains. "Generally speaking, if they want to keep the media out of it they'd make a joint statement, people like to settle, outside of court."



Reasons that might have led to Scarlett, Reynolds divorce

Remember when Ryan Reynolds was married to Scarlett Johansson for a blink of an eye? We almost didn't either: they began dating in 2007, tied the knot in 2008, and split in December 2010, and they were both so private and secretive about the whole thing that there's very little photographic evidence they were ever together at all. So what went wrong? In April 2016, Johansson indicated to Cosmopolitan that the career competition between herself and Reynolds may have played a role in their split. "The logistics of being with another actor are challenging," she said. "There has to be a real understanding of how you share your time, especially when two people's careers are going at the same rate. Or even if one person is more successful than the other, that also proves challenging. There may be a competitive thing. That echoes her sentiments from almost exactly a year earlier, when she hinted to Parade magazine in April 2015 that Reynolds' box office bombs may have played a role in their divorce."

BIG AND FABULOUS

THEY'RE cool, they're confident and they're celebrating being big and beautiful.

The dozens of plus-sized women from the Vaal gathered at Vereeniging Civic Theatre on Saturday afternoon to celebrate their beauty.

The event marked the first year of the project to make the women feel comfortable in their skin.

It started with a beauty pageant that included music from local artists, poetry and fashion. There were stalls selling handcrafted jewellery by local brands.

Speaking to the SunTeam, the two women who initiated the event, Sabeeya Mothobi (23) and Nompumelelo Malindi (29) said the aim was to make big women feel comfortable and confident. Sabeeya said women should not be made to feel ashamed.

"We initiated this concept so we could celebrate plus-sized models." "This is a platform used to give confidence to women who believe they are not as beautiful as slim women." Sabeeya said she used to be shy about her body and size until she started understanding that there were different sizes of women in the world. "We teach women of our size how to



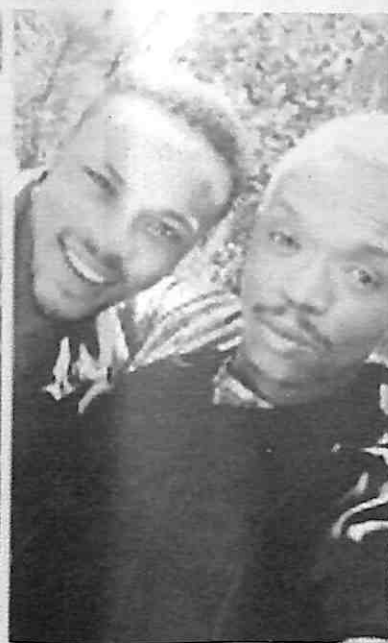
Plus-sized women on the runway at the Vereeniging Civic Theatre.

take care of themselves and feel confident to wear anything they wish to wear at any time," said Sabeeya. Nompumelelo said it was high time society accepted plus-sized women. "We are often shut out and marginalised but there is no need for people

to work at being slim just so they fit in with society," said Nompumelelo. "We need to motivate young women who grow up with plus-sized bodies." The event is set to be an annual celebration.

Daily Sun

Socialite Somizi reveals his first crush



TV and radio personality Somizi Mhlomo took to social media to reveal that his first crush was the handsome 24-year old Isibaya actor, Pallance Dladla.

Somizi shared a pic of himself and Pallance with the caption: "This week is my lucky week. Yesterday I was on set with junior."

"Today I'm on set for a different commercial with @pallancedladla my first crush. I wonder what tomorrow holds."

It is so clear that the spicy Idols judge can't resist Pallance's hotness because in another Instagram post, Somizi's hand is seen all over the young actor.

Daily Sun



5 THINGS STYLISH WOMEN NEVER DO

FOLLOW A TREND JUST BECAUSE

It seems like every other week there's a new "it" item. Stylish women, you'll notice, never feel beholden to a particular fad. So don't feel like you have to get on-board with every trend, because every trend doesn't suit every woman. Even if the world is obsessed with matching crop-top sets, you be the judge of whether it's right for you. If you're into it, though, go forth.

DRESS FOR OTHER PEOPLE

Women who really love fashion dress to please themselves, not those around them. (And especially not for men.) Stylish girls use fashion as a form of expression, and dress the way they dress because it makes them happy. It's kind of like the Marie Kondo philosophy: If an item of clothing—say, a teal jumpsuit with a rope belt—brings you joy, you should wear it regardless of whether or not other people would.

WEAR CLOTHES THAT DON'T FIT PROPERLY

Fashion-forward ladies recognise the value of a good tailor. A few seemingly insignificant alterations can be the difference between meh and wow. Yes, it costs more money than wearing things straight off the rack, but in the long run, it's worth it to have fewer pieces that fit like a glove than a ton of pieces that don't hang quite right.

TREAT THEIR CLOTHES POORLY

You know when you get home after a long day and change into your pajamas only to toss the day's clothes in a pile on some chair in your room (or worse, the floor)? That's something any self-respecting fashionista would never do. She values her wardrobe too much. That means always hanging things up or folding them neatly to avoid wrinkles or any other damage. Especially if you're spending extra to have clothes tailored to your body, it's wise to treat them with respect.

...Like wear something just because it's trendy. You know those women who always look put together? Who wear pieces you'd never wear at the same time—but still look amazing? While you can't always decipher their exact magical secret, you can follow their lead and avoid these five sins of styling



WEAR CLOTHES THEY DON'T FEEL TOTALLY COMFORTABLE IN

If you're going to be squirming around in an outfit you're not feeling your best in, you might as well not wear it. If you feel uncomfortable in something, chances are it's going to

show on your face and in your body language. If you're even a little bit hesitant about how an ensemble makes you feel, it's probably best to skip it altogether, lest you get 20 minutes into your day before realising you're going to spend all your energy focusing on how your arms look.

The fourfold beauty of a Godly woman

A Christian woman has the opportunity to be one of the greatest influencers on earth. The striking beauty of her spirit may win the soul of her unbelieving husband. Her adherence to God's design in marriage can proclaim the glory of the gospel. Her faith in and knowledge of God's word can spill over into her spheres of ministry. However, if a woman does not know her God and His word, and if she is not clinging to its precious promises, she begins to resemble Eve, the mother of her flesh. Her heart can easily be deceived by the enemy's craftiness, and her affections can be led astray.

1. She Hopes in God

For this is how the holy women who hoped in God used to adorn themselves. (1 Peter 3:5)

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the heart of a woman filled with a deep, abiding hope in her God. This is the foundation of everything God has called her to be. Sarah hoped in God, and she "considered him faithful who had promised" (Hebrews 11:11). Women should never give up the pursuit of God through his word.

As we give birth to families and wade into realms of ministry, many of us desire to diligently tend to those in our care. However, we are often so empty because our spiritual supply is dried up. We are left with nothing worthwhile to share with needy souls, let alone our own souls. A woman who hopes in God is well acquainted with the character of the Promiser and the specifics of his promises. She spends time with him in his word and in prayer, and she believes in his gospel and finds shelter in his name.

2. She Rests in God

...let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious. (1 Peter 3:4)

A woman who knows her God will put her hope in God and find her rest in God. She calms and quiets her soul, and she does not flail and strive against the God who is her refuge and who determines her circumstances. Rather than fret, a meek and quiet woman trusts in the Lord. She delights in the Lord, committing her way to him and trusting in him. She delights herself in abundant peace. Trusting God to be who he says he is, she is still before him and waits patiently for him. She does not seek to justify herself and exact revenge for the wrongs that have been done to her, for her strong tower and refuge is

the name of the Lord in whom she hopes. She waits for the Lord (Psalm 37:7, 9, 34).

3. She Submits to Her Husband

For this is how the holy women who hoped in God used to adorn themselves, by submitting to their own husbands, as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord... (1 Peter 3:5-6)

An overflow of a wife's hope and rest in God is submission to her husband. Sarah submitted to Abraham because she trusted in and obeyed God. Her submission to her husband was not due to her reliance upon Abraham. Rather, her eyes were fixed on a trustworthy God who was worthy of her submission. When a woman refuses to obey God's command to submit to her husband, she follows in the footsteps of Eve, the mother of her flesh. This muddies the gospel that God designed to be showcased through her marriage.

But a woman who rests in God and submits to the headship of the Lord Jesus will mimic the example of Sarah who called her husband "lord" (an acknowledgment of authority, not worship). While there are important biblical explanations about what submission looks like (and does not look like) and how a wife is to reverence and obey her husband, a daughter of Sarah understands the secret behind submission to her husband: Her hope is in God.

4. She Is Fearless

And you are her children, if you do good and do not fear anything that is frightening. (1 Peter 3:6)

A woman who hopes in God is not afraid, because she knows her God. She is not afraid of the path that her God has called her to walk. She is not afraid of sickness. She is not afraid of the future. She is not afraid of death and dark valleys.

She entrusts to God her children, her marriage, and her ministry. She advances the kingdom through fearless submission to God's design for womanhood, marriage, motherhood, and ministry, because she hopes in God.

And though she stumbles like Sarah and laughs in disbelief at the promises of her God, he will turn her laughter into one of confidence in her Savior and joyful hope in his word. By faith, she laughs, because she looks to that lasting city, the heavenly one. By faith she joins the ranks of holy women who considered him faithful who had promised. She is a woman of whom this world is not worthy, and God is not ashamed to be called her God.

Behind the Scene

REDEMPTION STORY 4 LIVE DVD RECORDING



Senior Police Officer Richard Mngemetulu with daughter Mumu posing while Pastor Zandi Thwala directs proceedings of the event. This was during the Redemption Story live recording at Royal Swazi Spa Convention Centre on Saturday.



Redemption Story ladies posing with the band. Seated is lead singer Sivile Vilakati and was dressed by Zubani Designs.



Redemption Story choir members in song during the recording.



Zambane leading while Fundzisile Dlamini director of Zubani Designs and Perl Mathse pose for a picture. Zubani Designs dressed up the female lead vocalists.



Thulani Ntshangase and Sipiwe while Ndimiso Mkhali and Temandlondlo Msibi leading one of the songs.



The audience enjoying the good music rendered by the choir.

SUNDAYCOMMENT:

SWAZILAND IS VERY RICH

The European Union Ambassador Nicola Bellomo has correctly observed that Swaziland has more than enough resources which the country is failing to fully utilise.

Swaziland is rich in most things that matter. The country has minerals aplenty, which Swazis are failing to exploit.

Look at how there have been no Swazi companies applying for mining licences despite there being areas with several decades of mining life in most of the minerals available for exploitation.

In the agricultural sector, people have sold lands which were historically designated for farming purposes and have instead turned them to plots. As is always the sad case, the sellers of the land only have a memory of the money they sold their land for while their silos remain empty and hands extended for hand-outs.

The amount of rainfall the country receives is one of the best in the region despite the drought yet nothing much gets done in order to harvest it hence the crisis which has seen Mbabane nearly brought on its knees. The rest of the country has seen grazing lands left barren leaving cattle to die on their knees.

Swaziland has for years had the best education system with several leaders from around Africa having gained from it or at best, sent their children to school in the country.

The peaceful character which is sung about on a daily basis fails to attract local investors to take advantage and create business opportunities which can rival that of Nigeria and South Africa. There are far too few genuine partnerships which the country dividends while the bulk of the wealth gets taken out of the country.

The fact that the EU ambassador has noted this should be cause for concern seeing as the country always depicts itself as needy and worthy to have donations handed to it.

This past week saw members of parliament holding the wrong end of the stick yet again. Their xenophobic tendencies shone through in as much the same way that their predecessors once made noise about foreigners of African origin who came to the country after realising the endless possibilities.

They complained, for the umpteenth time, about Asians running the most simplest of enterprises such as groceries on Swazi Nation Land. Instead of looking at the root cause and healing the cancer which is of Swazis failing to keep businesses running, they have instead labelled the symptom of Asians as being the chronic disease.

One wonders why an Asian would be able to make money in Maphalaleni whereas a Swazi fails. Isn't it perhaps time to learn something from them before kicking them out? They too have realised the jewel that is Swaziland and are getting a piece of the pie. Recalling King Sobhuza II's council on adopting that which the country can gain from, Bellomo's observations should get everybody on board and looking at how those who have exploited the country's wealth for so long have done it



BY THEMBEKA
DLAMINI

Analysis & opinion

WHAT NOW FOR GIDEON?

Having been fired from his position of being Minister of Commerce Industry and Trade, Gideon Dlamini will most probably become a parliamentary back-bencher with no retribution to whatever might have led to him being relieved of his duties.

Reasons behind his firing have not been forthcoming save for the prime minister to announce his firing indirectly during a reshuffling announcement on Friday.

The former minister has, since July, been embattled with media reports of his alleged fraudulent involvement in an investment deal. The story was broken exclusively by the Sunday Observer and Dlamini has maintained he was innocent of any wrong doing.

Of note is, despite having been tried and found guilty by the court of public opinion, Dlamini is yet to be charged of any crime even though he admitted to this publication during an exclusive interview that he was being investigated by the Anti-Corruption Commission.

During the same interview, Dlamini revealed how he had been told to take a back seat in ministerial duties, something he had been doing for some time, albeit at his own terms as he attended functions under his ministry but blended into the background as there was always a representative standing in for him.

The last notable function he attended as a minister was the Global Business Round-table meeting in South Africa a few weeks back where he participated in the event. This event he attended despite having been banned from functions, Cabinet and travelling.

Archives

If precedence is anything to go by, his alleged fraud will remain in the archives of newspaper articles as well as pop up during Google searches and life will go on with a degree of normalcy for him as a mere parliamentarian, a position he will hold for the next 18 months.

The fact that we have all but forgotten which constituency he represents is for another day which the people of Mkhweni will have to deal with come 2018.

Several ministers have left their plush ministerial offices and the perks which came with the position under a cloud of controversy with their firing being the climax of their debacles only for their problems to ebb into oblivion thereafter.

Granted, some have had to deal with court battles following their failure to service loans leftover from their high earning days.

The most recent sacking that comes to mind is that of Senator Sibusiso Shongwe.

Having openly defied his immediate boss and namesake, the Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini, he stated to all and sundry that he only took His Majesty King Mswati III and God's counsel. His haughty run came to an



abrupt end when he was arrested for alleged fraud earning him a few days in remand where he got to mingle with awaiting trial prisoners for whom he had shown compassion during his stint as minister of justice and constitutional affairs.

He was fired 24 hours after his arrest having served a mere 18 months, seemingly the magic number of months for fired ministers.

He is yet to be tried for the alleged fraud as his case seems to have lost steam in court rooms of the country while he continues his political duties as a senator.

Proceeds

In the previous parliament Macford Sibandze was fired from his position as Minister of Tourism and Environmental Affairs. He was accused of misappropriating part of E10 million which was proceeds from the sale of Nhlanguano Sun Hotel. The then minister was alleged to have used the money as his travelling kitty despite a call by government to reduce trips at that time.

After his firing, Sibandze turned low-key and completed his term as MP without any repercussions contrary to the prime minister's assertions that his firing was not the end of the misappropriation saga as there had been recommendations made by the auditor general.

Sibandze's firing was the third in the ninth parliament as he followed closely on the feet his counterparts; David Matse, who held the justice and constitutional affairs portfolio, as well as Nelisiwe Shongwe, who held the position of information, communication and technology.

Matse's firing was said to have been against the backdrop of allegedly failing to handle a boycott by lawyers, lasting three months, who had issues against then Chief Justice Michael Ramodibedi such as the firing of Judge Thomas Masuku, to name but one.

Shongwe's firing in 2011 came after she allegedly failed to carry out an order to fire the Swaziland Posts and Telecommunications Corporation (SPTC) Board of Directors. Despite her 2012 arrest for fraud for transactions which happened several years earlier, in October 2005 and August 2008 to be exact, her case is yet to see completion.

Another minister who left under a cloud of controversy was Titus Mlangeni who was public works and transport minister. Having been suspended over alleged corruption leading to his firing in 2002, he was never arrested for any crime nor tried in any court.

Allegations

So it on this premise that one can surmise that Gideon has nothing to fear save fear itself. It is most probable that the allegations against him will remain just that, allegations whose veracity will never be proven in court.

The Mkhweni MP can go home knowing that, despite the taint to his reputation, his troubles ended the minute the reshuffle was announced. He might have to readjust his lifestyle and budget to suit his reduced earnings but with his background as a businessman, it is unlikely that he will be adversely affected.

He will have to get used to driving his own car in the event he gets rid of his chauffeur seeing as he was one of the perks of being a minister of the crown. In the event he lived in a government house within the city, he will have to vacate it and find alternative accommodation.

Even the media will have to forget about the alleged fraud debacle and only refer to it as background to his fall from grace. His political career post 2018 will be determined by the electorate which might forget about reasons behind his sacking during the months leading to the elections, depending on how he campaigns to remain in their hearts.

It was however interesting to note the reaction of some cabinet ministers on hearing that there was going to be a reshuffle. Several were noted to be uncomfortable, actually fearful that they were about to be axed a few hours before the prime minister made the pronouncement.

This then brings to question whether ministers have a code of conduct to which they adhere to. Do ministers know what is expected of them once they hold office or do they grope around in the dark and use their intuition to get around?

If the latter is the case, then the country is in for long wade in quagmire

A JOURNEY TOWARDS THE 2016 NATIONAL EXPO PART 4:



St Francis High School.



St Mark's High School.

EVALUATING IMPACT OF JA COMPANY PROGRAMME



NOKUKHANYA GAMEDZE

JA BOARD CHAIR

Today I would like us to visit the capital city of Swaziland (Mbabane) and review the programme through the schools implementing the JA company programme around the city.

In most cases when we think of development, we usually expect it to resume in the capital city of the country. It is therefore of imperative importance that we get to hear from the initiators of development as to how they found the JA Company Programme to be of value to them. The three schools used as case studies are St Francis High School, St Mark's High School as well as KaBoyce High School.

ST FRANCIS HIGH SCHOOL

Chakazibukiwe is an in-school mini company that was developed through the JA Company Programme. This student mini company produces paper charcoal in a bid to recycle waste paper and clear the environment.

"We developed this kind of product in a bid to be actively involved in providing solutions for some of the environmental problems that we see around us. We feel that as the future leaders of our country, we have a role to play in identifying environmental as well as social problems and find intelligent ways to solve them. We then challenged our thinking into producing a product that will inspire the aspect of caring for the environment around us," said Sphelele Dlamini the mini company's General Manager.

Wandile Nkambule who facilitates the programme explains that young people enrolled in the programme have displayed a high level of excitement towards developing their own business idea and



KaBoyce High School.

being exposed to the independence that making your own income can bring.

"It has been a great experience to watch young people transform from pupils to entrepreneurs who understand the concept of making their own income," he said.

The Deputy Head teacher Christopher Simelane explained that the value they saw in adding such a programme as part of the school activities came from the realisation that securing employment after university is no longer a guarantee.

"We therefore have to cultivate a generation of young people who will find a niche in the market and develop a product that will meet consumer demands to sustain their livelihood. This platform therefore paves a way that our learners can follow in future," he said.

ST MARK'S HIGH SCHOOL

St Mark's High School is one of the schools that once implemented

the JA programmes and decided to take a break. This year was their comeback year.

The students decided to sell wintery items such as scarfs and gloves to their schools mates. They also aimed at producing organic manure and sell to farmers. Their projects encountered a lot of challenges which left them with vital lessons to learn. Swelihle Tembe the General Manager of the pupil mini company named Hashtag Epic Verse had this to say on behalf of his colleagues;

"The first lesson that we learnt was the value of time. In this programme we were given just one chance in the form of 15 weeks to make it work and we had to maximise on this time because as we know it now this period has elapsed. Our most profound lesson was in the form of community service. We learnt the essence of giving back to the community that supports us. It is inspiring to know that in business the aim should be beyond getting money but also

encompass giving back to the community," she said.

Speaking to Mfanimpela Gama the accounts teacher and also JA programme facilitator, we learnt that the aspect of the programme developing into a competition tends to motivate learners to give entrepreneurship their best effort.

"They tend to have that drive that they want to be the best in the competition and therefore put their best foot forward. Of course challenges that develop along the way tend to put a damper spirit among the learners especially if they do not receive clients. It is at that moment that they realise just how much hard work running a business can be and how one has to keep on in spite of the challenges," he said.

Gama went on to recommend that perhaps such a programme should be implemented as part of the curriculum for young people as he believes they can benefit from this all around the country. "If the Ministry of Education could partner with JA to absorb such a pro-

gramme as part of the curriculum, perhaps the positive effects of the programme can be much greater. Also having an entrepreneurship day around the country to communicate the value of entrepreneurship to young people can improve the level of recognition for such programmes," he concluded.

KABOYCE HIGH SCHOOL

KaBoyce High School has been implementing the JA programme since 2013. They have been part of the schools that over the years have impressed with their products to the level of being part of the top ten schools competing at the national expo event.

This year the learners from this school have decided to develop a mini company naming it Feed and Drainage Specialists.

They developed a drainage cylinder that is inserted in the drainage systems of a building to collect those impurities that can end up blocking the entire drainage system of a building. They also produce chicken feed.

Welile Zwane who holds the position of General Manager in the mini company explained that this experience has taught them the importance of team work and also developed the art of persuasion as a marketing strategy.

"A business works when it values team work and each member contributes to the success of the business. Building a customer base can be a challenge hence a strategy such as persuasion tends to appeal to customers to the extent of convincing them to make a purchase," she said.

Sabelo Ginindza who facilitates the programme and a commercial subjects teacher at KaBoyce explained that students learn best when they conduct practicals.

"The exposure to the business practical has enhanced their level of understanding for the lessons they get in class. They have also developed the mentality that they want to be entrepreneurs as they acknowledge the value that it has," he concluded.

Join us again next week as we conclude the school visits and get into the implementation of the national expo activity.



RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE MATTERS

With Section 23 of the country's Constitution as part of the Bill of Human Rights, it has since ushered a Multi-faith society in Swaziland. Christians, including yours truly, have always felt comfortable with Swaziland being called a Christian nation, following the long-held Somhlolo's vision.

We have passionately stood our ground that the symbols he saw in a dream was indeed *Umculu* (Bible) and *indilinga* (coin). The impact of that vision saw the Christian faith embraced by even the Royal Household.

What is critical here is that we are talking about a religious life of the Swazi that sits at the very foundation of their world and life-view. We tend to forget that Swazis do have their own culture and religion, which we can revisit some other time, but truth is we are a religious lot and this, is evidenced in our nationalist rituals and sacred practises.

Incwala sacred ceremony is a spiritual and religious rite even though considered cultural. So is *kumekeza* (getting married culturally) and being inducted to the new family status.

Kuzila, mourning for your departed ones and *kwetfwasa* (initiation) to become a traditional healer are some of traditional religion menu for the Swazis, which remains unexplored how they have shaped the life of the Swazi generally. To then make a blanket statement that Swazis are not a religious entity, one better revisit their views, because those of us who have ventured, remain shocked about the rich religious heritage of the Swazis.

A MULTI-FAITH SOCIETY

A Multi-Faith Society has since been ushered following the enact-

ment of the country's Constitution especially Section 23. We now as a nation find ourselves having to choose from so many other faiths, which before operated without much vigour and strategy. For those of us who studied religion, we have noted that even our education system has embraced a multi-faith curriculum and as they no longer read only about God of the Christians only.

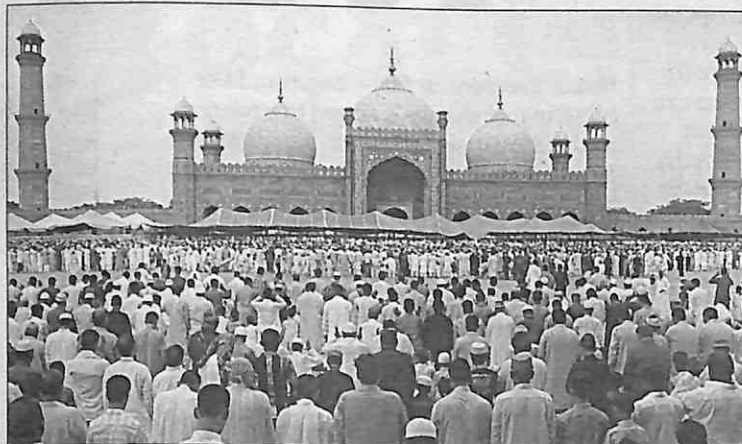
The present religious education has long embraced a multi-faith curriculum and this is what obtains all over the world. What has remained unchanged is that the morning assemblies in the schools are still led on Christian dogma, and sooner than later, the followers of the other religion might take the ministry of education to a constitutional Court to challenge this.

This is the reality that cannot be denied that we are a multi-faith society and that is here to stay by the way. We therefore need to brace ourselves for future challenges of this multi-faith society and be forever prepared how to handle such obtaining challenges that could impact our education system. It is very strange that in some countries during morning assembly, pupils are only allowed to only sing a national anthem, and leave the religious issues out. An issue for policy I guess for the ministry of education.

RELIGION

Religion is such a spiritual devotion that some people go to lengths in defending even laying their lives down if they feel their religion is under threat and criticised unfairly.

The great wars that we have come to see in some countries have to do with people claiming their religious life is under threat. We should not underestimate the



power of religion as it does push people to some extremes and it is amazing what religious convictions of a given person can become at times.

We therefore, must respect that people are a religious lot, who on an on-going basis wants to win more followers. To make matters worse, we know for a fact that other people have been killed and murdered for their beliefs, and this does not sit well with people who are advocating for peace and stability.

If religion in humanity means to reach to a Divine being, why then even criticise such a humble devotion, calling followers of such religions names? Religion is such a sacred thing and as such must be treated with respect and accorded the dignity it so deserves.

God-The Divine, has never left a people without footprints that He exists, then if people on their own they use religion to relate to him, so we should stop naming and shaming, without even getting the facts about any religion people practise. We must open louder the volume on religions promoting good morals and peace.

RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE

Let us be all aware that the other Faiths are already in Swaziland and to be belittling them and

labelling them names as we discriminate against. For those of us who travelled widely in Africa and beyond, we have come to realise there are religious fanatics who become extremists.

If you follow their behaviour at times they pushed by their religious convictions. We therefore have an opportunity enter into some dialogue and embrace religious beliefs of other people. This dialogue involves an open mind of engagement that if full of respect for these faiths. I think this is where human rights come into play here, respect does not mean you are already becoming their follower, but rather saying I hear you and respect your religion so please respect mine.

It will augur well of our cherished peace that we so value as a nation to respect other faiths. Some of these faiths are already doing so many good things and our people are seeing them in some better light. To any other person who might be feeling otherwise, propagate, promote and spread your own faith.

Akufakazwe Maswati Lamahle!

MUSHROOMING NEW RELIGIONS

While we are advocating for religious tolerance, we are also mindful that there are so many other

mushrooming entities and some are started by even questionable characters.

It is so easy to start a religious entity in Swaziland without even following the due registration process for such entities. What is even more worrisome is that these entities are not even affiliated to any recognised ecumenical body or a recognised religious structure.

A registry of these religious entities is more desirable, so that if there are any acts deemed unbecoming, their leadership should be taken to task. While this is a human rights issue where we advocate for freedom of association and assembly, religious entities must be seen respecting the laws and operate with a licence or recognition. Otherwise subtle religious and spiritual abuse cannot be ruled out.

REALITY

Religion has a direct impact on people's lifestyle, conduct and behaviour. For continued moral regeneration, it must be given the due respect. We advise that Swazis must begin to tolerate people's faiths and ensure that they are availed with all necessary support and not be called names.

Where religion plays an important role it must be celebrated and encouraged. But when there are acts of religious fundamentalists that give birth to acts of violence and discrimination, then such religious acts must be critically evaluated and perpetrators of any crime and violence be brought to book. All we pray for is for peaceful co-existence and living together in harmony in this country.

We all deserve peace as Swaziland is a peaceful country. Religion is sacred and adds value to the maintenance and sustenance of peace. This is human rights matter.

HELLO OCTOBER!



October is a very busy month on the international calendar. This past week was Customer Service Week, Thursday was World Sight Day, while the month as a whole is devoted to Breast Cancer Awareness.

Among the reasons for commemorating Customer Service Week was to remind our valued customers how much we value them, which we are doing right now! We greatly appreciate those that have chosen to be with the Dups family, and we hope to con-

tinue to provide sterling service to everyone we come in contact with. In the event that any of our customers feel they haven't received the attention they really wanted, please remember that our doors are always open. Do find a way to have your concerns looked into. All relationships flourish when there's good communication.

For the customers to be happy, we also need a motivated workforce to deliver services. Dups is very proud to have a diligent team that stays on its toes, sometimes under very stressful circumstances, to make things happen as they should in our stable. Even though the word says, "a prophet is without honour only in his hometown, among his relatives, and in his own home", we will shout it from the rooftops that our team is the best.

There are many events that appear on the international calendar that appear like non-events because they affect the minority. All those events are quite important because somewhere in the world, there are people whose lives are drastically affected by the specific issues that we might dismiss as not big enough to warrant any attention.

October being Breast Cancer Awareness Month, there will be many campaigns and news articles locally and in other media outlets. Please do not change television channels or flip past the pages because you don't believe breast cancer, which also affects men, has anything to do with you. Be informed. Information is power. Where there are initiatives in support of health conditions, Dups encourages you to participate as well because you never know when you might need information disseminated at such functions, or the same support that other people need. If there is

free screening of breast cancer anywhere near you, go and get checked out. You have nothing to lose and everything to gain by so doing. Government health institutions around Swaziland have regular sessions concerning breast cancer awareness.

You would never sit down to think of issues affecting the blind until you or a loved one lost their sight and began to deal with the associated challenges. World Sight Day is a global event that focuses on bringing attention on blindness and vision impairment. It is observed on the second Thursday of October each year. Many age-related conditions leading to blindness – such as cataract, refractive error and glaucoma – can be easily cured if there is timely intervention to delay or reduce their effects on vision. It is therefore, a good idea to be informed about all kinds of health conditions that might affect us, like preventable blindness. Blindness can

either creep up on you, or you can be born blind. Dups takes all forms of disabilities seriously and shows compassion to affected esteemed customers. The Dups Dignified Funeral Plan covers up to eight people, which are the principal member, his/her spouse and six children below 22 years of age or up to 26 if they are full-time students at nationally recognized institutions. It has no age limit for children who are blind or disabled in any form, and are fully dependent on the policy holder. A doctor's letter of confirmation would be required.

If you would like to take up the Dups Dignified Funeral Plan, or any other Dups plan, call us on 2505 2028. You can also pay us a visit at our offices in Manzini, Matata, Matsapha, Simunye, Nhlalango, Mbabane, Pigg's Peak and Siteki. Alternatively, you can send queries to info@dupsgroup.com, www.facebook.com/dups or on Twitter @dupsinsurance.

LETHUMUSA
SIMELANE

CELL: 7606 7049/ TEL: 2416 1278/9

KUGANA NGENGVCULU

It is an undisputable fact that our 'modern society' does not in any way accommodate our forefathers in any way, such that if nature can be merciful enough and bring back to life, many if not all can opt on going back to their graves. We have successfully made them strangers in their own land, the life we live and the food we eat can bring about a sense of perplexity to them.

It is a commiseration to construe with the fact that we are bewildered and have totally lost our identity, we are negligent and perishing from ignorance.

We are so short sighted to even reckon that the so called technology and development is not meant to uphold us as a nation but to disparage and cheapen our true worth and value.

Let me remind those who subscribe to modernity that old does not mean bad therefore it is utterly imbecility and betise to throw away our culture just because it is 'old' in the modern world.

Sure as shooting, those who are of the view that what is our own is old are in error. We have created mayhem. It is of great vitality that people connect with their ancestors for the sake of their spirituality.

Culture enhances our spirituality, our lives revolves around culture as culture is the heart of a nation. Hence, a nation without culture is a nation in darkness and with no purpose. It is of great importance to note that when you lose culture you actually lose yourself.

Itolo lijaha beliyisoma intfombi ngalesinye sikhatsi kute kuphele iminyaka solo intfombi ingavumi. This was done to establish an adhesion and an unshakable alliance between the two people.

This period gives the man the satisfaction that the lady has good morals and has ethical values. Even in the case of a long distance relationship the man is assured that the lady will remain faithful to him.

Equally important, the persistence of the man reflects his pursuit on the women and she constantly gains trust and in no time she will be head over heels.

However, whenever she feels she is satisfied and is willing to give in, she informs other girls and they would set a date *yekuyewugana*. *Intfombi ke ihamba naletinye iyewuhlehlele lelojaha lelikhetsile.* *Intfombi beyigana emini kubona wonkhe umuntfu.*

As a result, it was very impossible for a man to propose love to somebody else's

fiancé. Everyone in that village would be mindful that she has engaged to a relationship. *Kutsiwa yagana emini lilanga libalele.* Her dress code changes soon after as now *sewuyaphambanisa tidvwashi*. This is done to show respect for the position she is about to be ushered into.

It also makes her age mates realise that she is now engaged. The manner in which she dresses also serves as a motivational tool to her peers. They are also inspired to be like her. This kind of courting was known as *kukha intfombi*.

Furthermore, there were cases where by parents of a man liked a girl from a certain area and long for her to be married to their son. The family would hold a meeting and the man would be told what his parents wanted. His father then sends delegation sometimes with cattle to the girls homestead or just the delegation and *lobola* comes after.

Respect

There were instances where the girl objects to this but eventually she would give in for her respect of her parents. She knew that her blessings in life come from obeying her parents and to avoid situations whereby a girl passes the stage of marriage because no men seems to be interested in her.

Intfombi beyiyaye ikhetse lijaha lelit-sandzile ibese ipheleketelwa nguletinye tintfombi iyekhabojaha bayokudla tinkhomo. In some areas they would wait near the kraal singing until someone is sent to come and fetch them or they go there singing and enter the grandmother's hut. *Intfombi lekunguyona itewudla tinkhomo ihlala ifu-latsele ibheke elutsandzane.*

Esandleni sayo isuke iphetse umzaca losikwe emabanga kusikwe imigca lekakela lendvuku. *Umugca umunye umele inkhomo.* *Letintfombi tiyasho kutsi tite kubani lakhaya.* *Uma lelijaha liyivuma lentfombi kuphuma tinkhomo tiye khabontfombi kantsi uma lelijaha lingayitsandzi liye liyigeze ngenkhomo nobe imbuthi kute ingabi nesinyama phambili.*

Lembuthi nobe inkhomo iyaye ihlatjwe khona lapho. *Bekwatiwa kutsi natisuka kuloyomuti tintfombi tichubekela phambili kulomunye umuti.* *Atibuyeli nayo lentfombi*



ekhaya, tibuyela netinkhomo. This kind of kugana was called *kudla tinkhomo*. Here the girl decides and mainly her decision is influenced by the fact that the man she loves, his parents had cattle which meant they can afford to help their son pay *lobola*.

Interestingly, there was another form of courtship where by *emaSwati bekatsi kutfwala intfombi*.

Here a man who loves a girl asks his friends and they would go to snaffle that girl to the guy's home. *Bafike bayibeke ekhabojaha emvakwesivalo lentfombi.* *Bakubojaha batfumela livi kutsi bakubontfombi abafunele ngenano.* *Bakubojaha bese bashaya tinkhomo tiye ekhabontfombi.*

There were instances where another man's fiancé was known, probably even the date for *umtsimba* has been set, and then strangely another man ambushes the other to take the woman and send cattle to her parent. If *lobola* has already been paid, the parents of the woman send the cattle to her former fiancé.

This simple meant that the man who was

her fiancé has to start afresh and look for another girl.

Furthermore, *emaSwati* believed that *intfombi iyendziswa*. Her parents are the ones who decide for her and that man has to pay *lobola*. In some instances *bekendziswa endvodzeni lenemuti nemfati kanye nemfuyo*. They would canvass the way in which he manages his family and approve it.

The man *lowendziselwako* has to talk to his wife first because *intfombi leyendzisiwe iyawudla umuti*. If she agrees it means she has agreed for her to hold a very important position in that family and the man has to pay *lobola*.

There were instances where the girl was not interested in the man *lakendzise kuye* simple because she already had her fiancé. The fiancé had to hurry and send *lobola* to the girl's family which marked the end of the attempted planned marriage. Then there is what we call *kugana ngengculu*.

This is a common trend in our time. Here people fall in love because of certain reasons. They communicate through phones

A minute with the FSE&CC president



This week we present to you the new Federation of Swaziland Employers and Chamber of Commerce (FSE&CC) President Andrew Le Roux.

Le Roux is a fourth generation Swazi who is highly conversant with the business environment and issues affecting the private sec-

tor in Swaziland.

His view is that Swaziland has limitless potential for business growth, but has become so fixated on the negative and challenges so much that the country is not fully utilising and exploring opportunities. He asserted that one of the sleeping giants with the potential for improving the country's economy is the agriculture sector.

This, he said, could be enhanced if small-scale farmers have an improved regulatory environment, access to capital and markets – a subject for another day. This is how the interview went:

Voice of Business (VOB):
Congratulations on your recent

appointment as the President of the FSE&CC and we welcome you to the hot seat of being the leader of the business community.

Andrew Le Roux (AR): Thanks a million for extending this noble invite. It is truly a privilege to be afforded such a rare opportunity in this space.

VOB: President, before we go to the nitty-gritties of today's business, could you briefly tell us about your personal background.

AR: I grew up in Nhlanguano and did my education in South Africa. I am a married man of one beautiful wife and two children. I am a grandchild of the famous

'Skonkwane' who greatly inspired my life to be what I am today. He was Deputy Speaker at the House of Senate in the late 1970s and was an attorney by profession.

Because of his influence, I also enrolled for a Bachelor of Law majoring in Civil Law at the University of Pretoria. Upon completion of my studies, I served my articles at Millin and Currie Attorneys. After that, I decided to join the private sector where I am currently working as an executive director for Montigny Investments.

I am a Christian and a preacher of the Gospel. I am part of the team that started Bulembu Ministries. I left Bulembu in 2013, and by the time I left, we had 500 employees, 250 orphaned and vul-

nerable children, 3 schools, a clinic, and a number of businesses including timber growing, a bottled water plant, a dairy and a tourism business.

VOB: It is quite interesting to learn about the role you have played in the development of the Swazi community, and the fact that you have contributed immensely in looking after the welfare of our OVCs. But what was the reason behind your leaving Bulembu?

AR: The reason I left Bulembu was to join Montigny Investment in raising one billion Emalangeni for the purchase of Usuthu Forest from SAPPI. It was at this stage that I became an executive committee member of the FSE&CC where I served for 18 months

and the relationship is mainly between the two people involved. It becomes easier for the people involved to terminate the relationship or have other partners because the relationship is private.

Kugana ngengculu, our grandparents did not approve of it. They argue that it does not create a bond between people who are in love let alone their parents. It is easy to walk in and out of such a relationship because it is more between the two people involved.

In a nutshell, culture keeps on revolving with time. Looking closely at the different forms of courtship used long ago, one gets to appreciate where we come from with our culture and tradition. Our grandparents mostly do not agree with the way we do things today. Some of them are from the period where a man spends years courting a girl and the girl knew that the only way in which she can show the man her true character is through making it difficult for him to get acceptance from her.

Looking at most of these forms of courtship, *emaSwati* used to priorities *lobola* over marriage. Once cattle for *lobola* have been paid, no matter how complex the situation or the encounter between the people, everything changed.

It is more interesting when you learn about *kutfwala intfombi*, that even if when the man has paid *lobola* and a date for the wedding has been set, a man could come and take that girl and send cattle to her parents which they then send to the first man's family as a sign that they are bringing back their cattle because their daughter has been taken by someone else.

Lomuhla loko kungaba licala lelibovu lihlwe! Sesigana ngengculu. It is very agonizing to learn that it is not only in Africa that people have forsaken their true self and adapted to other contaminated cultures and values.

Most people are living in ignorance and that has resulted into so much turmoil. We are so short sighted to even see that we are being culturally, spiritually and even economically crippled with the veiled curtains of technology and development. Many of us don't even know of our roots, where we come from or at least know who we are. All we know is what we have been told by other people to be. It is a gravely mistake to think that your enemy can teach you how to survive. Imagine if a cat would teach a mouse how to run fast!

The cat would starve and die a slow painful death and if the mouse would listen to the cat, it would be signing its very own death certificate!

before being appointed President. **VOB: Speaking about your appointment as FSE&CC President, what inspired you to stand for such a challenging position?**

AR: I believe passionately in the private sector and a free-market economy. In order to achieve this, the private sector needs a strong voice in lobbying other social partners such as organised labour, government, development partners and stakeholders. I believe there is no better vehicle in achieving this than through the FSE&CC, which is why I am determined to take up this role.

VOB: What are the issues that you have to urgently work on in this new role?

AR: I have been here for a few

years and have noted that the private sector needs to be even more represented in different forums, as the primary engine for economic growth.

I will work on ensuring that the FSE&CC remains a credible voice of business in order to improve the business environment for corporate business, especially against the backdrop of AGOA and ILO issues over the last three years. I believe the voice of business in Swaziland needs to be even louder as we engage with stakeholders to influence policy for a conducive business environment in the Kingdom. I believe in a non-political federation of employers which the FSE&CC is.

VOB: How would you ensure that the FSE&CC remains the

effective voice of business in Swaziland?

AR: In order to be effective, FSE&CC needs to be constantly on a financially sound footing. As the voice of business, we need to listen to our members to get what they want. To achieve this, we need to improve our communication and active participation of all our members. We also need to grow our members in all

sectors including small and medium enterprises. Our members should be better informed on what the organisation collectively stands for and does and how they benefit from it.

Most importantly, the private sector needs parliament to pass legislation that will create an enabling

environment for business. We cannot have legislation such as the Sectional Titles Bill awaiting approval for more than 15 years. This is highly unacceptable.

VOB: Your last words President?

AR: May I extend my thanks to the FSE&CC membership who have entrusted me with this position. I encourage members and all stakeholders to come and see what we do and recommend how we can best serve them.

My wish is to see Swaziland retaining EU and AGOA access for all goods and services. Together, we can.

VOB: We wish you all the best in executing your duties President.

AR: Many thanks.

EXPLORING RELIGIOUS TOURISM:

IS THE CHURCH READY TO BOOST LOCAL INDUSTRY?

Allow me today to write from a first person standpoint, as I tackle a topic that crossed my mind last week, given the recent happening at the local congregation that I fellowship in somewhere in Mbabane.

What happened, which actually has become more of a tradition than anything, was that one of the many sub-groups we have in church embarked on a leisure – perhaps team building – trip to South Africa, to visit one of that country's famous tourism establishments in the North West province. This is not the only group that has initiated and undertaken similar trips.

The Sunday school, the youth, the young adults, the single parents, couples, women's groups, among many others have also headed to various places within and outside the country, for religious and leisure purposes, therefore making them tourists.

Elsewhere, so strong is the precept of religious tourism such that it directly contributes to some countries' national gross domestic product and the economy by extension.

Immediate examples that come to mind include, but are not limited to, throngs of Muslims who go to Mecca annually for their great pilgrimage, thousands of Christians who visit places like Bethlehem, Thaba Nchu and Moria during Christmas time or Easter Holidays, and hundreds of people who visit countries like Nigeria, Malawi, Zimbabwe, and South Africa to meet various 'prophets' or for ceremonial gatherings/conferences.

Perhaps, you would appreciate that the simple definition of a tourist is a person who leaves his usual place of abode and embark on a journey to another destination for leisure, social, business, or any other purpose. Naturally, such travel inevitably comes with spending, in transit and at the final destination in one way or the other. This implies that any form of travel is bound to result in some commercial transaction of sorts, what we call in our indus-

try's terminology; tourism receipts. Such spending could be in the form of fuel (buying of), food, new clothing and/or bedding, lodgings, entry fees at various places, and taxes, among many others. This basically substantiates why we always contend that everyone somehow is part of the tourism's value chain.

Returning to what crossed my mind this past week; have we ever wondered about how much more the local tourism industry could benefit if different groups in various churches in this country insisted on visiting/touring local establishments and tourist sites every now and then, ahead of foreign trips. As a matter of fact, there are more Swazis who still have not visited all the wonderful and amazing places this country has to offer.

Misconception

This misconception and myth that greater spectacles are found outside our borders should be debunked by our group leaders in our churches.

Swaziland, in spite of her small geographic size, is endowed with endless and surprisingly intriguing places and activities that need locals still need to engage with and in. Great campsites across the country await church groups to sample.

In the Lubombo Region, for instance, great campsites right in the middle of a nature and wildlife conservancy exist. The SARA and the Siphiso camps are found at Mlawula Nature Reserve, just a stone's throw away from yet another famous and luxurious campsite; Magadzavane.



Malolotja Campsite
where churches are also welcome to come camp.

These are managed by the Swaziland National Trust Commission (SNTC). Other private campsites and mass lodging facilities, suitable groups, also exist in that region. For example, the Mananga Country Club at Tshaneni has both steel and mortar rooms, as well as luxurious yet adventurous boat houses that float on the Sand River overnight. Simunye Country Club also has rooms and conference facilities suitable for various church

groups.

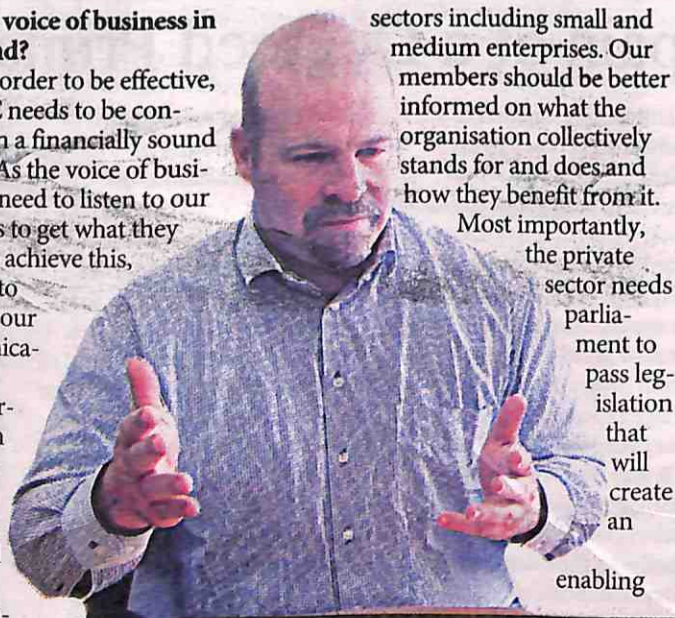
Some great places to consider in that region include the community-run award winning Shewula Mountain Camp, Tambankulu Club, Lituba Lodge, Siteki Hotel, among many other establishments.

Groups from churches should also be heading to Hhohho, where there's Malolotja Campsite, Hawane Resorts, Maguga Lodge, Pigg's Peak Hotel & Casino, a great assortment of hotels in Ezulwini, to mention but a few. Shiselweni region also boasts of great places like Mahamba Lodge, Phumula Guesthouse, Nisela Safaris, among many others, while Manzini boasts of numerous hotels and campsites as well.

Mentioning some of these places by name is deliberate. This is done to expose to group leaders and planners in churches how wide and diverse our tourism offering is in the country. For an exhaustive list of all places, please visit our website www.thekingdomofswaziland.com.

Perhaps in the same breath, may we call upon our local tourism and hospitality establishments to consider marketing their places and activities to this group of keen travellers.

Churches engage in activities like luncheons, thanksgiving parties, weddings, engagements, and so forth; hence establishments should market themselves more to appeal to this group of possible domestic tourists. We are convinced that if these groups do their travel internally, this would benefit local communities, and greatly alleviate poverty in the same communities.



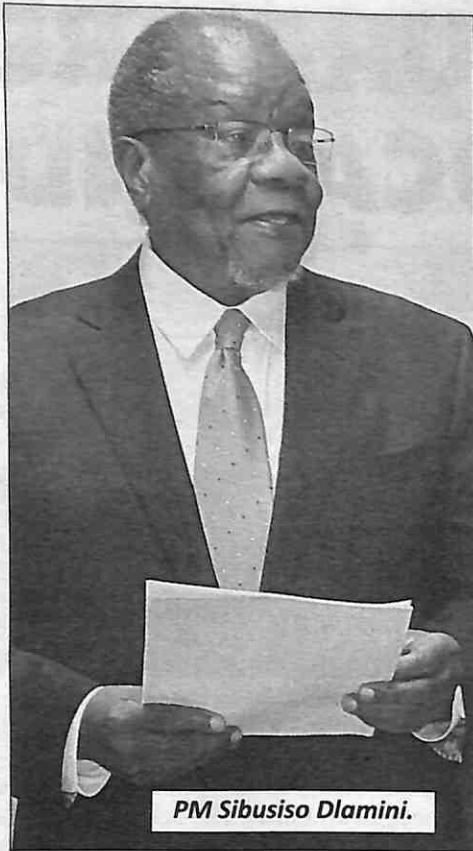
FSE&CC President Andrew Le Roux.

MIND THAT ERROR

ADIDI UYO



Of simple and ticklish faulty prepositions



PM Sibusiso Dlamini.

Take a good look at the following two sentences. Both harbour the error of **faulty prepositions**, but one is simple, whereas the other ticklish.

Sentence #1: "The political landscape of Swaziland is obviously different to that of the rest of the world." **Sentence #2:** "Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini has warned against interference between the three arms of government; the Legislature, Judiciary and Executive." The first sentence is the opening of the second paragraph of an opinion piece titled, DRAMA OF POLITICS – Times of Swaziland, August 24, 2016. And the second sentence is the lead of a news story headlined, "PM warns of interference between arms of government" – Swazi Observer, October 17, 2014.

In the first sentence, the preposition that is faulty is "to," as in "different to." The correct preposition is "from," and the correct sentence should read: "the political landscape of Swaziland is obviously different **from** that of the rest of the world."

Compared with the faulty preposition in the second sentence, that in the first sentence is at once simple to detect and correct. In the second sentence, the error inheres in the phrase, "interference between the three arms of government."

The preposition, "between," is wrong, because it is used when there are two things. But, oftentimes, we find even well educated people using it the way it has been used in that sentence.

This usage is unacceptable to grammarians of the prescriptive persuasion who believe that rules of traditional grammar must be adhered to. And that is what makes this faulty preposition ticklish.

But if you ask me, I will say: "Live by the rule of prescriptive grammar on this. When there are more than two things involved, the correct preposition to use is **among**, not **between**."

In the same news story in the Swazi Observer was this sentence: "He emphasised that while each of these arms of government carried out their duties, they should be careful not to interfere onto the others' business." The faulty preposition in this sentence is a simple one to detect. Instead of "onto," the preposition should be "in": "...they should be careful not to interfere in the others' business."

In the Swazi Observer of February 28, 2016 was an editorial titled, "Born free...taxed to death." From the editorial comes this sentence: "The people are taxed every month

and even when they retire from work, they are still taxed, which is an indictment to the government of the day which prides itself on its record."

The faulty preposition in that sentence is the word that follows "indictment." The correct preposition that follows "indictment" is either "of" or "on," not "to." Again, this is a faulty preposition that is simple and straightforward.

Compare that with the faulty preposition in this sentence: "Can any of us afford for our government hospitals to make mistakes, any mistakes?" In error here is the preposition, "for." What makes it rather ticklish is its usefulness: It is not necessary, to begin with. Besides, when you go beyond the grammar of the sentence to its logic, you would see that the whole sentence needs to be reconstructed in order to make its sense clearer to the reader.

Here we go, again! "Acting Chief Justice Bheki Maphalala has emphasised the importance of cooperation between the three arms of government, the Executive, Legislature and the Judiciary."

This is the lead of a news story in the OBSERVER ON SATURDAY, July 15, 2015, with the headline, "Acting CJ's approach different from 'Makhulu Baas'"

Of course, grammar purists and grammar-

ians of the prescriptive mould would say "No" to the preposition, "between," and "Yes" to "among."

POLITICALLY WEAKENED BUT PM IS NO DANGER was the title of an opinion piece in the Times of Swaziland, September 15, 2015. The first sentence of its last paragraph reads, thus: "The long and short of it is that given the unpredictable nature of Swazi polity coupled by the fact that the Constitution is not really sacrosanct, few lawmakers would want to risk their jobs in the event the appointing authority did not endorse their resolution as provided by the Constitution."

There is nothing to take away from the sagacious sentence, except the preposition that follows the word, "coupled." The correct preposition is "with."

"Do you think you funny? Do you make people around you laugh and have the time of their lives? Do you view the world through a different set of eyes than those around you?" This is the opening of a piece in TONIGHT Magazine, an accompaniment of The Star, June 27, 2016. The title of the piece is: "Got laughs? Time to stand-up and be counted."

The piece did make me laugh. But what I couldn't laugh at was the preposition, "than." This is a **faulty preposition**. The correct one is "from": "Do you view the world through a different set of eyes **from** those around you?"

"A rock and a hard place" is the title of the first editorial in the Times of Swaziland, September 7, 2016. The first two sentences of the introductory paragraph read, thus: "Head teachers are caught between a rock and a hard place. They, together with teachers, have called for the postponement of schools opening because the country is faced by a serious shortage of water."

If there is a ticklish faulty preposition, the one in the second sentence of that opening paragraph must surely pass for one. Amiss is the preposition, "by," as in "faced by." And what makes it all the more ticklish or awkward is the choice of a passive construction rather than an active one.

Let us end the story by just reconstructing the sentence this way: "They, together with teachers, have called for the postponement of schools opening because the country faces a serious shortage of water."

That sentence kills two birds with one stone: It obviates the error of **faulty preposition**, and it uses the active voice which makes the sentence more cogent.



JOY NDWANDWE'S ZONE LEADERSHIP

Yesterday the Mokgokong family celebrated the legacy of their father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother and uncle SOS Mokgokong at Mavuso Trade Centre. This centenary celebration of Senator Mokgokong's legacy occurs at an opportune time, when His Majesty King Mswati III has taken over the Southern African Development Community (SADC) chairmanship.

During 'tsetfelo,' when contributions were made to His Majesty towards the hosting of the recently held SADC Summit. I was privileged to have been with Dr Anna Mokgokong, daughter of Senator Mokgokong, who presented a generous contribution as chairperson of Afrocentricity Medscheme.

Indicative of the unending bond between the Mokgokong Family and this kingdom, as her father was appointed into the Senate during the King Sobhuza II era in Parliament.

His Majesty King Mswati III during an interview on SABC, emphasised how within SADC, the kingdom was always assigned education. This is evident in the head of states and governments, ministers, chief executive officers and leaders who were educated and lived in this kingdom.

Yesterday was a celebration of education as a liberation struggle weapon and practical example of how SADC families are critical mechanisms for regional integration.

EDUCATION AS A LIBERATION STRUGGLE WEAPON

Manzini has never been the same since Senator Mokgokong's demise, hence this centenary celebration was befitting and in honour for a distinguished gentlemen in the city and country he loved. Philosophical ones can contend, Senator Mokgokong chose Swaziland or Swaziland chose him, hence his arrival into the kingdom during the legacy of King Sobhuza II. This legendary leader opened doors to Africans, during the pre and post-independence era, to bring into this kingdom education as a liberation struggle weapon. The British had not invested in higher education during the colonial period, hence recruiting African graduates was a strategic decision by the leadership.

The intrigue about Uncle SOS is that he was a son of a priest, during this education era, the most likely choice of education would have been to follow in his father's footsteps. In addition, colonial education emphasised religious education over science, as Ali Mazuri stated how during colonial education Mary Magdalene was held more significance than Madam Curie.

Indicating that Senator Mokgokong must have been extremely courageous to study science during this education era. A choice worth celebrating as it brought change into this country when there were limited science teachers, hence this Fort Hare graduate's contribution was outstanding.

Senator Mokgokong left his country armed with a strategic struggle weapon, science and like a regiment ensured, his contribution impacts on the many he educated and mentored. This contribution is evident in the number of science graduates that are now teachers and academics, leaders in institution within Swaziland and South Africa.

This liberation struggle weapon also manifested yesterday as his children launched a bursary to support a science student at Salesian High School. This bursary launched at this centenary celebration indicative of how Uncle SOS's legacy lives on, as ancestor of his

LETTER

The pain of a Degreed Primary teacher

Sir,

I get hot under the collar each time I think of the pain endured by degreed primary teachers in Swaziland at hands of government.

For quite too long now, we've had to deal with the fairytale of being told that an olive branch was extended to the post-less BA and PGCE holders in Secondary Schools thus made to teach at a primary school as they unrelentingly wait for the unending queues at TSC for their rightful posts. That is pulling wool in our eyes. Many a times, TSC, as the MoET's recruiting agency, has

made ambiguous statements that have sent shivers down to the spines of many teacher. These teachers have been subjected to the worst forms of unfair labour practice by this Government of the Kingdom of eSwatini.

They are qualified teachers having successfully enrolled for an education programme (PGCE). They have expertise, skills and relevant pedagogic etiquette. Some B. Eds have spent their hard earned monies to upgrade themselves only to be told to go to hell with their degrees by the office of director of education.

The exploitation of these teachers (PGCE's in particular)

has been going on unabated since time immemorial. The matter now is a labour dispute since Government doesn't take into consideration a number of labour legislations that guide labour practice. The collective agreement for this year places degreed teachers, which most of these teachers possess, at C4. Our employer, unilaterally effects changes and pays these teachers at a humiliatingly low scale, C3 much to the chagrin of the working class of this cadre.

Before all hell breaks loose, I would advise government to revisit those colonially-influenced General Orders with a

sober intent to make them in tandem with the country, regional and international standards regulating labour.

These teachers, through their collective bargaining organisation, must be engaged to try and find a balance of probabilities on same. As teachers celebrated WTD in October 5, 2016, it should be borne in mind that teacher exploitation is rife and real in Swaziland. Let teachers be paid accordingly.

Frowning Degreed
Primary Teacher
Mcolisi
Manzini

CENTENARY CELEBRATING SENATOR MOKGOKONG



The Mokgokong family is a significant regional integration story for this kingdom, as the children of Uncle SOS continue to raise the Swazi flag within SADC and beyond. They are envoys of this country in professional and business ventures as to them Swaziland is their home and source of peace and stability. This country rooted them with education and equality such that they are pioneers and mentors to many in their different spheres of influence. And yesterday's celebration was a remarkable experience as they brought other SADC families into the kingdom.

Evidently, education is a strategic liberation weapon that has created a rippling effect within the SADC family, whether it is the intermarriages or retracing families. In my meeting with Buti Joe Mokgokong he shared how they have reconnected with many families and rediscovered relatives over the past years. Considering how growing up in Swaziland they were the only Mokgokong family, they have rekindled with members of their families within SADC. This celebration in actual fact manifested during one such family celebration, when he mentioned how Senator Mokgokong would have been 100 years.

THE SADC FAMILY

One of the intriguing naivety I experienced was the understanding that the Mokgokong family were Pedi and not Sotho. As in Swaziland anyone who speaks a 'Sotho' language is Sotho to us, without in-depth knowledge of the origin. Therefore understanding that most of the families who were teaching in Swaziland were Pedi's was a pleasant surprise. At times I wonder if it is Swazi naivety or a self-preservation, considering the Swazi and Pedi history during the British war with King Sikhukune. As the Swazis fought against the Pedi on the side of the British due to a treaty they were promised.

The intrigue is that during the liberation process in Swaziland, the Pedi teachers led in various High Schools within this kingdom, when the Swazis called them Sothos. This is critical in our understanding the significance and importance of the SADC family lineages. As this regional integration established reciprocal relations, as the teachers who were teaching Swazi children who benefited. They were living in a peaceful and stable country with their children, and many children who came to Swaziland for primary, high school and tertiary education.

This manifests into the SADC family, strengthening regional integration emanating from history and lived experiences. The Mokgokong family lived along Swazis and integrated into the language and culture such that today they speak SiSwati as well as Pedi and other SADC languages.

Thus, exemplifying that SADC is not limited to the leadership of this region, the families within this region have the responsibility to make it practical. Yes there were pockets of challenges such as xenophobia, however this is outweighed by the many regional relationships celebrated yesterday.

CONCLUSION

During the centenary celebration, a book on Senator Mokgokong was launched, and this brought tears of joy to my eyes. He had wished to publish before his demise, and he got me running around looking for publishers. When I received a call from Buti Joe on his demise, all I could think of was the unpublished book.

I returned all the documents to the family, and today looking at this publication brings joy. We need these legacies to be written for future generations, who will never meet these veterans of the liberation struggle of SADC utilising education as a strategic weapon. Worked within SADC member states, whilst ensuring that their children return home from a peaceful and stable base. Today they lead, rooted in education and equality in the current struggle in South Africa, that is, for economic and education equality, including mining and health services to mention a few.

I have fond memories of Uncle SOS the distinguished gentleman of Manzini City, who dressed immaculately and was not shy to share his style in town. Dressed up like in this picture or wearing Kaizer Chiefs replicas or tennis clothing, this Manzini resident had swag. Also his immaculate command of the English language made him outstanding in his vocation as a teacher and mentors to many of his students at high school.

I recall his daughter, my friend and sister Moloko, sending us all to the dictionary when her father used the word 'cantankerous' referring to our behaviour.

My plea to all invited guests is, visit the King Sobhuza Memorial Park in Lobamba, to honour the legendary leader who welcomed Senator Mokgokong with dignity.

WM1: NMC'S MAIZE GRADING METHODS

We read the previous week that the National Maize Corporation is vying for ISO Certification.

That is a huge step for the organisation and it means even more to our clients and stakeholders. This is not to say the organisation has been going about their business the wrong way, but rather, getting certification just re-affirms that indeed the processes we have been going through as an organisation when handling our products are correct and are of acceptable global standards. This will also help us refine some of our systems to ensure that world standards are met and that the organisation continues to deliver to the expectations of the end-consumer and further deliver on implied expectations.

There are several processes and procedures that the organisation goes through in order to deliver the best quality to the public, and in terms of the maize we buy from and resell to the public, our starting point is grading the maize. The National Maize Corporation prides herself in delivering WM 1 maize to the public. WM 1 is basically white maize, grade 1: the best of its kind in grading standards.

One may ask themselves what goes into maize grading and what factors are looked out for when maize is being graded. Also, questions may arise as to what impact that may have on the selling price of maize and more so, why the need to grade maize or any other grain for that matter.

Grading regulations promote fair business practices and a competitive marketing environment for grains. By the correct application of the grading regulations, fair and competitive trading practices are promoted to the overall benefit of consumers and the agricultural industry as a whole. Grading ensures reliable and accepted descriptions of crop quality and value, and promotes economic health and prosperity in agriculture. It also prevents unscrupulous suppliers from dumping the unwanted products in the market.

Grain quality refers to the safety and hygiene of grain and the appropriateness of quality for specific end-use and processing. Grading further provides a measure of grain quality and therefore, grain inspection and grading of grain consignments are of utmost importance.

The following factors are looked into when grading maize brought to the National Maize Corporation depots:

a) Insects: Any live insect which is injurious to stored grain irrespective of the stage of development of the insect.

b) Poisonous seed: Means seed or part of seed of plant species that may represent a hazard to human or animal health when consumed.

c) Defective maize kernels: Means maize kernels and /or pieces of maize kernels in the sample that pass through a 6.35mm round sieve and that are shrivelled, frost damaged, heat damaged, water damaged and chalky.

d) Wizened Maize: The germ and endosperm (soft and hard starch) of these kernels do not develop to maturity. These



kernels have a shrivelled appearance and appear to be shrunk.

e) Soiled maize: Maize kernels that are obviously smeared with soil or ground dust, contaminated by smut, fire, smoke or coal-dust.

f) Mouldy maize: Means kernels or pieces of kernels that are visibly infected by fungi and are characterized by black, blue, green, brown, yellow or white fungi growth anywhere on the kernel or are characterised by fungi growth underneath the bran

layer of the kernel.

Sampling for inspection purposes must meet the requirements in the regulations for that particular crop. Guided by this regulation, our SHERQ and Stock Controller team conduct an official investigation of the grain by taking a representative sample of the grain in the prescribed manner and will go on to weigh, inspect, calculate moisture content as well as check for aflatoxins and finally deriving a grade for the aforementioned calculations. After which, the maize is then stored in silos that are also prescribed in grading regulations.

Elements

This ensures that our maize complies with certain functionalities as well as safety and hygiene standards, and is free from disease, harmful elements or other adverse factors within specific limits.

Our grading system helps the organisation ensure that the quality of any product from any producer is assessed in the same manner and that it is focused on the customer's end-use requirements, which is normally milling, although there are many other known uses.

Most countries have developed maize grading standards with a view to provide a framework for trade both internally and externally. Swaziland has not done any differently and this has particularly played a crucial role in the importation of maize from other countries into Swaziland.

Importing maize has put the country and the NMC in a position where they would not be able to view or inspect their purchase of maize thus the global language of grading has been the tool that has bridged the distance gap between NMC and the different destinations from where maize is purchased for the Swazi Nation.

The use of this agreed standard has provided the NMC and so many other such organisations with the unambiguous description of the quality of the consignment.

The entire process sounds simple enough, and can therefore be easily misconstrued as pretty straight-forward to carry out.

But there are always challenges when dealing with different levels of your publics as an organisation and the NMC has not been spared the pain of going through this.

But like every challenge faced by the organisation, the NMC has been blessed with a leadership that advises it's team to allow themselves to be adorned by lessons derived through challenges and hardships as this is what builds character and promotes continued improvement individually and as a team.

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Lionel Messi hopes to have a clause inserted in his next Barcelona contract which will allow him to leave when he sees fit.

Messi wants release clause in new Barcelona deal

MADRID - Lionel Messi hopes to have a clause inserted in his next Barcelona contract which will allow him to leave when he sees fit, according to Diario Gol.

Messi, 29, has spent his entire career with the Catalan side after joining from Newell's Old Boys' youth system in 2001.

However, the Argentine has always suggested he could leave the Blaugrana and end his career with his boyhood and hometown team. And according to the news outlet, Messi is already planning for that move.

It is reported that he wants a release clause in his upcoming deal which allows him to end his time there when he sees fit to join the Argentine side.

The five-time Ballon d'Or winner is currently contracted to Barca until 2018.

Goal

Montolivo out after successful surgery

ROME - AC Milan captain Riccardo Montolivo will be out of action for up to six months after successfully undergoing surgery on an injury to his anterior cruciate ligament.

The 31-year-old was carried off on a stretcher after half an hour of the 1-1 World Cup qualification draw between Italy and Spain on Thursday with the knock to his left knee.

Milan confirmed on Friday that Montolivo was due to go under the knife, with the midfielder now set to be sidelined for five to six months as a result. "Milan

announce that Riccardo Montolivo underwent medical surgery today morning for the reconstruction of his left knee anterior cruciate ligament," a club statement reads. "The surgeon Professor Doctor Herbert Schoenhuber is satisfied with the result of the surgery. The recovery time will be five to six months, unless complications arise."

The midfielder had played in all seven of his side's Serie A matches this season prior to earning a call-up to Giampiero Ventura's squad for the World Cup qualifiers this month. **Goal**

WALES V GEORGIA BETTING, HOSTS CAN SHOW THEIR DEFENSIVE STRENGTH

CARDIFF - Wales will be hoping that home advantage can prove pivotal when they go head-to-head with Georgia in a crucial World Cup 2018 qualifier in Cardiff.

Chris Coleman's side twice led in Vienna on Thursday but were forced to settle for a share of the spoils after a pulsating 90 minutes against Marcel Koller's Austria.

The Dragons have picked up four from their opening

two group games and Wales - semi-finalists at the European Championships earlier this year - are widely expected to get back to winning ways when they line up against Vladimir Weiss' men in the Welsh capital.

Slipped

Georgia slipped to a narrow defeat in Dublin against Republic of Ireland and, given their poor record on the road, they will be expecting another tough test in this fixture.

Wales are unbeaten in their

last seven competitive matches on home soil and, indeed, Chris Coleman's charges have conceded just one goal during that impressive run of results - in a 2-1 win over Cyprus in 2013.

Georgia, by contrast, have picked up full points in just one of their last 19 World Cup qualifiers away from home and, in fact, Weiss' men have been beaten in no fewer than 11 of their last 12 matches on the road in this competition.

Goal

Liverpool top Premier League running stats

LONDON - Liverpool are top of the Premier League statistics when it comes to total running distance covered and sprints made this season.

It appears to stand testament to manager Jurgen Klopp's methodology which revolves around his now widely known Gegenpressing - a counter-pressing style which relies on players being highly fit, and able to cover a lot of ground. It's said that when the

German first took over, he put his players through rigorous triple training sessions which started early in the morning, and continued throughout the day.

The Reds have covered 814.8 kilometres in total and have made 4,165 sprints as well. They lead Manchester City who have covered 803.9 kilome-

tres. Surprisingly, Manchester United cover the least ground in the league with 735.6 kilometres.



The highly athletic style of play seems to be working for Liverpool - they are currently in fourth position after winning their last five matches in a row in all competitions.

eamtalk

Barcelona set to suffer blow in chase for Atletico Madrid star

MADRID - Atletico Madrid are ready to open contract talks with attacker Yannick Ferreira Carrasco, AS reports.

Barcelona held an interest in the Belgium international winger this summer and Atleti are concerned that the Catalans might soon be willing to bid the €40 million that is currently the player's release value.

As a result, they wish to increase his release clause and in return offer him a significant-

ly higher wage.

When Carrasco arrived from Monaco in the summer of 2015, he signed a six-year deal that will expire in 2021 - the same contract he is currently on.

With a transfer ban looming, the Vicente Calderon side know they cannot afford to lose one of their star performers.

Goal



Yannick Ferreira Carrasco

'Opposing goals is the way to go'

TIRANA - There were mixed emotions back home following Spain's 1-1 draw in Italy, with plenty of positives to be taken from the game yet ultimately a sense of disappointment at the result. La Roja were hugely intense in the first half not allowing their opponents time or space, while moving the ball crisply when in possession themselves.

Their goal though was fortuitous as it came from a baffling Gigi Buffon mistake and there may still remain the underlying feeling that

for all their pleasing possession, Spain still lack a killer touch in front of goal.

Diego Costa was once more chosen to lead the attack, but again failed to really convince, with his replacement in the second half Alvaro Morata looking at least more of a threat to the opposition.

Albania meanwhile got their World Cup qualifying campaign off to a winning start with a late win against neighbours Macedonia as substitute Bekim Balaj netted in the 89th minute to earn a 2-1 victory, before overcoming

Liechtenstein 2-0.

Albania impressed many in Euro 2016 and this is unlikely to be a straight-forward game for the visitors, although Spain remain clear favourites at 2/7 (1.28) with bet365 while Albania can be backed at 11/1 (12.00) and the draw is priced at 4/1 (5.00).

Despite their impressive opening half in Turin on Thursday evening, it is hard to avoid the feeling that this will be a tough encounter for Spain and one that might be settled by few goals. Six out of Albania's last seven games

in all competitions have seen under 2.5 goals and a repeat is offered at the tempting price of evens (2.00).

Games

In qualifying for Euro 2016, Spain won their last three away games by a 1-0 scoreline, and unless they are facing minnows such as Luxembourg or Liechtenstein they do not often rack up big wins.

Spain's last eight away games excluding the European Championship in France this summer have all seen under 2.5 goals and backing a repeat on Sunday night looks like an excellent option. **Goal**

WORLD CUP QUALIFYING - AFRICA

16:30 Congo	v	Egypt
19:00 Tunisia	v	Guinea
21:30 Algeria	v	Cameroon

World Cup qualifying - Europe

18:00 Wales	v	Georgia
18:00 Israel	v	Liechtenstein
18:00 Finland	v	Croatia
18:00 Ukraine	v	Kosovo
20:45 Moldova	v	Republic of Ireland
20:45 Serbia	v	Austria
20:45 Albania	v	Spain
20:45 FYR Macedonia	v	Italy
20:45 Iceland	v	Turkey

Moldova vs Rep of Ireland Betting, Visitors can make their mark

CHISINAU - Republic of Ireland will be looking to secure back-to-back victories in their bid to reach World Cup 2018 when they travel to take on minnows Moldova today.

Martin O'Neill's side held their nerve to record a crucial 1-0 win against Georgia in Dublin on Thursday and the Boys in Green are chalked up as a 8/15 (1.53) chance to follow up with another three points in Chisinau.

Moldova, thumped 4-0 by Wales in Cardiff in their opening group game, were beaten 3-0 by Serbia at home that same night and the hosts will be desperately hoping for a morale-boosting win when they come up against the Boys in Green.

Igor Dobrovolskiy's side, however, have a dreadful home record, having picked up just two wins from their last 21 matches on home soil - against Kyrgyzstan and San Marino respectively - and, having managed just two goals from their last six home games, it would take a remarkable upturn in fortune for Moldova to spring a surprise in this match.

Victory

As such, the odds compilers offer 6/1 (7.0) that Moldova claim a memorable victory, while the same firm go 11/4 (3.75) that O'Neill's outfit are forced to settle for a second successive away draw in this group, having been held by Serbia last month.

Ireland, though, have a strong record on the road in this competition; indeed, the Boys in Green have been beaten in just two of their last 22 World Cup qualifiers played away from home, while the visitors have scored two or more goals in all but one of their last 12 wins on the road in World Cup qualifying.

The visitors can draw confidence from their ability to put the ball in the net, for O'Neill's team have failed to find the net in just two of their last 20 matches - and if they can continue their scoring streak here, Republic of Ireland could well go a long way to chalking up a crucial victory in Chisinau.

Backing both teams to score would have paid dividends in four of Ireland's six away matches in qualifying for the European Championship and, as such, the 11/10 (2.10) quote on offer from Paddy Power for that trend to continue could well prove popular here, while the same firm also go 11/10 (2.10) that more than three goals are scored in this game - a selection that would have landed in four of Ireland's last six outings.

Better value, though, lies in backing O'Neill's outfit to score two or more goals in this game at 8/11 (1.73) with Paddy Power; the selection would have landed in each of Ireland's last four away wins in World Cup qualifying, and with Moldovan morale likely to be low after two heavy defeats in the group thus far, O'Neill's outfit are outstanding value to heap yet more misery upon the hosts here.

goal

MUNICH ALWAYS AN INTERESTING OPTION - BRANDT

BERLIN - Bayer Leverkusen winger Julian Brandt has admitted a transfer to Bayern Munich could be an interesting next step in his career, while a move abroad could also be an option for the Germany international.

Brandt has developed into a key figure at Leverkusen since joining them from Wolfsburg in 2013 and has been linked with a move to a bigger club on more than one occasion in recent months.

The 20-year-old is in no rush to move on, though, even if he is keeping all his options open.

"I do not have a set career plan. You cannot really plan things in football. But I am of course always considering my options," Brandt told Express. "A move abroad could be an interesting option, but Bayern Munich are always an interesting option as well. "But I do not see Leverkusen as a stepping stone. I am not thinking about a transfer. I am taking things one step at a time."

"I still have goals I want to achieve here. I want to be more consistent

"I do not have a set career plan. You cannot really plan things in football. But I am of course always considering my options,"



Bayern Leverkusen midfielder has revealed his desire to join Bayern Munich. (AP)

and score more goals." Brandt could have joined Bayern when he left Wolfsburg, but he felt Leverkusen were the better choice at that stage of his career."

I came from the Wolfsburg youth academy and it would have been very difficult to prove my worth at Bayern.

Goal.com

Rosberg takes pole position at Japanese GP

SUZUKA - Championship leader Nico Rosberg seized pole position for the Formula One Japanese Grand Prix on Saturday, the German marginally fending off Mercedes team mate Lewis Hamilton in a close-run qualifying session.

Rosberg has led every session of the race weekend and confirmed his superiority around the Suzuka Circuit with a fastest lap of one minute, 30.647 seconds, just 0.013 seconds quicker than Hamilton on an overcast afternoon. "I'm happy with the result in the end," Rosberg told reporters. "I was going well the whole weekend and had a good balance in the car, feeling good, feeling comfortable so that's what allows me to put in a lap like that in the end."

Rosberg's 30th pole position of his career was the German's third in a row at Suzuka as Mercedes, who can wrap up a third successive constructors' title on today, claimed first place on the grid for the 52nd time in the last 54 races.

Starting from the front also gives Rosberg a golden opportunity to extend his 23-point lead over defending champion Hamilton with four rounds remaining after Japan.

The Briton had been poised to vault back into the overall lead at the last race in Malaysia until he

TIMES

1. Nico Rosberg (Germany) Mercedes 1:30.647
2. Lewis Hamilton (Britain) Mercedes 1:30.660
3. Kimi Raikkonen (Finland) Ferrari 1:30.949
4. Sebastian Vettel (Germany) Ferrari 1:31.028
5. Max Verstappen (Netherlands) Red Bull - TAG Heuer 1:31.178
6. Daniel Ricciardo (Australia) Red Bull - TAG Heuer 1:31.240
7. Sergio Perez (Mexico) Force India - Mercedes 1:31.961
8. Romain Grosjean (France) Haas - Ferrari 1:31.961
9. Nico Hülkenberg (Germany) Force India - Mercedes 1:32.142
10. Esteban Gutiérrez (Mexico) Haas - Ferrari 1:32.547
11. Valtteri Bottas (Finland) Williams-Mercedes 1:32.315
12. Felipe Massa (Brazil) Williams-Mercedes 1:32.380
13. Daniil Kvyat (Russia) Toro Rosso - Ferrari 1:32.623
14. Carlos Sainz Jr (Spain) Toro Rosso - Ferrari 1:32.685
15. Fernando Alonso (Spain) McLaren 1:32.689
16. Jolyon Palmer (Britain) Renault 1:32.807
17. Jenson Button (Britain) McLaren 1:32.851
18. Kevin Magnussen (Denmark) Renault 1:33.023
19. Marcus Ericsson (Sweden) Sauber - Ferrari 1:33.222
20. Felipe Nasr (Brazil) Sauber - Ferrari 1:33.332
21. Esteban Ocon (France) Manor - Mercedes 1:33.353
22. Pascal Wehrlein (Germany) Manor - Mercedes 1:33.561

was forced out with an engine failure while on his way to a landmark 50th win just 16 laps from the finish. **Supersport**

Ronaldinho better than Zidane, Pele and Maradona - Boateng

MUNICH - Kevin-Prince Boateng has described Ronaldinho as the best footballer he ever played with, hailing the Brazilian as even better than Zinedine Zidane, Diego Maradona and Pele.

The Las Palmas midfielder, who played with Ronaldinho at AC Milan, said the 36-year-old was past his best when he first signed for the Serie A club.

But despite his advanced age, Boateng insisted Ronaldinho still had so much quality it placed him above other legends of the sport.

"Who's the best player I've ever played with? Ronaldinho no doubt," he told Fox Sports. "When he arrived at Milan he had no great desire or was tired and was no longer the Dinho of before. But what he wanted was for people to see that he was the best player in the world. More than Zidane, Pele and Maradona."

"He wanted to hit the crossbar three times and did it. We won-

dered how it was possible there was so much talent in one body. It was unbelievable."

Goal.com



Snedeker blows clear in Fiji wind

WASHINGTON - American Brandt Snedeker tamed the wind on Saturday to take a three-shot lead on the third day of the European Tour-sanctioned Fiji International at the Natadola Bay Golf Course.

Battling the breeze, the eight-times PGA tour winner fired a two-under 70 to go with his opening rounds of 69 and 65 to pull clear of Australian Anthony Houston who had a third-round 73.

Overnight leader Matthew Giles struggled in the wind with the Australian's three-over 75 pushing him back to third on 208, one stroke ahead of New Zealanders Michael Hendry and Gareth Paddison.

Snedeker had little time to get the feel of the course after flying in late from America's Ryder Cup victory and had a bogey at the second in the opening round.

But he then put together a blemish-free run of 49 holes before tripping up with a bogey on the 16th in the third round and then immediately regained the stroke with a birdie on

the next hole.

"It was a tough day, I did a great job of hanging in there. I hit the ball really well off the tee with one exception and put the ball where I needed to all day," Snedeker said. "A three-shot lead in wind like this is one hole so I need to go out there and play a solid round of golf like I did today."

Hendry also mastered the wind, going four under with a 68 while Paddison, who set a course record 64 on Friday, signed for a 69.

They were followed by Australian Ben Eccles, who went two-under 70 to be equal with fellow-Australian Brett Rankin and South Korea's Inhoi Hur who both shot even par to be six-under going into Sunday's final round. © AFP

Top 10 debut for Konta with semi-finals win

BEIJING - Johanna Konta became the first British woman in a generation to break into the top 10 as she booked her spot in the China Open final yesterday.

The Briton put in a solid performance to advance to the biggest final of her career, beating eighth-ranked American Madison Keys 7-6 (7/1), 4-6, 6-4.

After a tight first set, Keys' serve let her down in the tiebreaker but she rallied in the second despite continued pressure from the Briton.

After demanding seven set points from Keys for the second set, Konta stepped up her game in the third, keeping the American on the defensive to take her a step closer to her second season -- and career -- title.

"I don't think she made a lot of



unforced errors or gave me a lot of balls to be able to get on the offense," Keys told reporters after the match. Konta, 25, burst onto the scene at last year's US Open where she reached the round of 16 claim-

ing two top 20 scalps en route.

She has gone up another gear this season, becoming the first British woman to reach a Grand Slam semifinal in 33 years at the Australian Open. **Daily Mail**

Hazard on target in comfortable win

BRUSSELS - Roberto Martinez's Belgium made it two wins from two in World Cup qualifying as they stylishly beat Bosnia-Herzegovina 4-0 in Brussels.

An Emir Spahic own goal and efforts from Eden Hazard, Toby Alderweireld and Romelu Lukaku were enough to inspire a maiden home victory for Martinez, in complete contrast to his debut defeat against Spain.

Spahic had scored twice in Bosnia's opening Group H win over Estonia, but he helplessly diverted into his own net, before Hazard finished from Dries Mertens' magical assist. Although the visitors had been very much in with a shout up until the

opener, they soon crumbled under Belgium's relentless attacking pressure.

Mehmed Bazdarevic's men came again after the break, but Alderweireld's finish from a corner killed the match off as Bosnia's momentum was building.

Lukaku made up for missing a sitter by thumping in his third of the campaign to add further gloss to the scoreline, although it proved a frustrating night for brother Jordan as he was withdrawn with an apparent ankle injury.

Haris Medunjanin lashed the game's first effort over the top, and when Lukaku then set Mertens away on the

right side of the area at the other end, referee Martin Atkinson adjudged Ervin Zukanovic's crunching challenge to be a fair one. However,

Belgium now had their tails up and a dazzling run from Yannick

Carrasco teed up the opener after 26 minutes. He jinked inside to pick out Thomas Meunier on the right and the 25-year-old's bobbling centre crashed against Spahic's shins and found the net. *AFP*



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Competencies

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GAMEEIRO DOUBLE INSPIRES FRANCE TO VICTORY

PARIS - Two goals from Kevin Gameiro helped France return to winning ways with a 4-1 thumping of Bulgaria in Friday's World Cup qualifier in Paris.

The Atletico Madrid striker marked his first start for his country since November 2011 in style as Didier Deschamps' side came from behind to record their first victory in Group A and put last month's disappointing stalemate with Belarus behind them.

France lost out on a place at the 1994 tournament thanks to an infamous 2-1 home loss to the visitors 23 years ago, and they were given a scare when Mihail Aleksandrov scored an early penalty after Bacary Sagna fouled Georgi Milanov.

The home side responded with a quick-fire double, however, thanks to Gameiro's superb headed finish before Dimitri Payet's cross found the corner of

● *Antoine Griezmann, who received his award for Euro 2016's Player of the Tournament before kick-off, struck a fine third shortly before the break to give France a stranglehold on the game that they never looked likely to relinquish.*



Kevin Gameiro and Antoine Griezmann celebrate one of France's goals. (AP)

the net. Antoine Griezmann, who received his award for Euro 2016's Player of the Tournament before kick-off, struck a fine third shortly before the break to give France a stranglehold on the game that they never looked likely to relinquish. *Goal.com*

Ronaldo hits four on international return

LISBON - Cristiano Ronaldo scored four on his Portugal return in a 6-0 World Cup qualifying victory over nine-man Andorra at the Estadio Municipal de Aveiro.

In his first international appearance since limping off in the Euro 2016 final win over France, Ronaldo helped soften the blow of Portugal's opening-game 2-0 defeat to Switzerland in Group B.

The Real Madrid star, back from a knee injury, led by example on Friday as the captain netted twice in the opening three minutes to leave Andorra reeling.

Koldo Alvarez's men, who only lost their group opener 1-0 to Latvia, sometimes resorted to heavy-handed



Cristiano Ronaldo celebrates with his teammates. (AP)

tactics in a bid to limit Portugal's dominance, but it had little impact. Joao Cancelo's deft finish extended the hosts' advantage on the stroke of the interval, with Ronaldo securing the match ball at the start of the

second half. The visitors' night got worse when Jordi Rubio was dismissed for a second booking and Ronaldo scored again to take his international goal tally to 65.

Goal.com

Swiss win five-goal thriller in Hungary

BUDAPEST - Substitute Valentin Stocker scored in the last minute to give Switzerland a 3-2 win away to Hungary on Friday after Adam Szalai had twice equalised for the hosts in a thrilling World Cup qualifier.

The Swiss went top of group B with six points from two matches following a game in which all five goals were scored after half-time, while Hungary were left with one point and

already look unlikely to make a first World Cup appearance since 1986.

The Faroe Islands are second with four points after their shock 2-0 win in Latvia, while Portugal and Latvia have three and Andorra none.

Switzerland struggled to get going in the first half without the suspended Granit Xhaka, who usually dictates the rhythm in midfield. But striker Haris Seferovic, widely criticised for his performances at

Euro 2016 when he failed to score a goal, put them in front six minutes after half-time, scoring from a rebound after Xherdan Shaqiri's shot was saved by Peter Gulacsi. Szalai equalised two minutes later, also from a rebound after his own shot hit the post.

Left-back Ricardo Rodriguez put Switzerland back in front in the 67th minute, volleying home from Valon Behrami's lofted cross for his first international goal. *Goal.com*

SELECAO RUN RIOT AFTER NEYMAR OPENS SCORING

BRASILIA - Neymar tore apart Bolivia as Brazil cruised to a 5-0 win in World Cup qualifying on Thursday.

After opening the scoring in Rio Grande do Norte, the Barcelona star set up goals for Filipe Luis and Gabriel Jesus.

Philippe Coutinho, handed a start ahead of Willian, also struck in a four-goal first-half blitz as Brazil put on a show at the Arena das Dunas.

With his 49th international goal, Neymar moved above Brazil great Zico and into outright fourth in the list of highest goalscorers for the national team.

Having dominated the opening period, Brazil cantered during the second half and Roberto Firmino came off the bench to complete the victory with a header in the 75th minute. It was a third win in as many games in charge for Tite, with his side second in the CONMEBOL standings. For Bolivia, it continued their miserable record in



Brazilian players celebrate one of their goals in the 5-0 demolishing of Bolivia. (AP)

away World Cup qualifiers, stretching their winless run on their travels to 51 games.

Brazil doubled their lead just 15 minutes later. Neat interplay down the right led to Giuliano squaring a pass for Coutinho, who took a touch before finishing into the bottom corner. Brazil's dominance continued and they struck twice more before the break. Neymar played Filipe Luis in on the left side

of the area and the Atletico Madrid full-back beat Carlos Lampe at his near post. Jesus was the next on the scoresheet, finishing neatly in a one-on-one with Lampe after Neymar put him through following a swift counter attack.

Neymar and Jesus continued to threaten after the break before both came off, the former having been left bleeding following an elbow to the face. **Daily Mail**

Cueva penalty pegs back Albiceleste

LIMA - Argentina toiled in the absence of Lionel Messi as they limped to a 2-2 World Cup qualifying draw against Peru on Thursday.

Barcelona superstar Messi was absent for the contest in Lima having sustained a groin injury against Atletico Madrid last month.

There were few initial signs of a struggle as Everton defender Ramiro Funes Mori drilled home his first Argentina goal in the 15th minute.

But Peru were the better side after the break and record goalscorer Paolo Guerrero made a captain's contribution with a fine equaliser just shy of the hour.

It appeared as though Edgardo Bauza's Argentina had stolen the win against the run of play through Gonzalo Higuain's cool

finish.

There was time for late drama, though, as Funes Mori was punished for fouling Guerrero in the penalty area and Christian Cueva's emphatic penalty restored parity.

Argentina - who also drew 2-2 last time out against Venezuela - now have 16 points in the CONMEBOL section, three adrift of leaders Uruguay, while Peru - who will feel they deserved more than a point - still languish in eighth.

Sergio Aguero tested the waters early on with a superb 25-yard free-kick that drew a fine one-handed save from Pedro Gallese with the ball heading for the top-right corner.

Argentina were in front by the 16th minute, though.

Daily Mail



Argentina and Peru played to a 2-all draw in their World Cup Qualifier match. (AP)

Paul Pogba needs affection - Griezmann

PARIS - Antoine Griezmann believes Paul Pogba needs to be shown 'affection' to rediscover his form after another disappointing performance during France's World Cup qualifier victory over Bulgaria on Friday.

Les Bleus returned to the Stade de France for the first time since losing to Portugal in the final of Euro 2016 and laid their ghosts to rest with a scintillating 4-1 victory, although Pogba again failed to live up to his billing as the world's most expensive player.

The 23 year-old has struggled on

his return to Manchester United following a record £100million move from Juventus in the summer, but Griezmann insists his national team-mate is giving all his effort and deserves appreciation.

Speaking to L'Equipe after the game, he said: "Paul needs affection. He tries to do his best, give everything."

"He has a different game with [former club] Juve, Manchester and here," he added.

France's poster boy Griezmann, who collected an award for being the best player at the European

Championship ahead of the game, scored one goal and assisted another for his Atletico Madrid team-mate Kevin Gameiro - who bagged himself a brace.

Gameiro, who was making his first start for France in five years, was pleased to recreate his club partnership on the international stage. It's just natural, Gameiro said about the understanding he shares with Griezmann. "We are both small in size and love to play with the ball."

Les Bleus coach Didier Deschamps was equally impressed



Antoine Griezmann believes Paul Pogba needs to be shown 'affection' to rediscover his form. (AP)

by the partnership between the two. "They were complementary

and effective. I'm happy for them and for the team." **Daily Mail**

Promes breaks international duck with double

DE KUIP - Quincy Promes scored his first international goals as Netherlands sealed their first win of 2018 World Cup qualifying with a 4-1 victory over Belarus at De Kuip.

In his previous 14 Netherlands appearances Promes had failed to hit the back of the net, but he finally broke his duck when he squeezed a shot past three defenders and into the bottom-right corner in the 15th minute.

The 24-year-old winger netted his second with the help of a deflection before half-time, with Davy Klaassen adding to the hosts' tally after Aleksei Rios had halved the deficit early in the second

half.

Vincent Janssen capped a brilliant display when he slammed the ball into the top-right corner from 18 yards, and there was no way back for Aleksandr Khatskevich's side, who were unable to test Maarten Stekelenburg, making his first international appearance since October 2012, in the Netherlands net again.

However, it was Promes who was the star of the show, ensuring the absence of Arjen Robben due to a rib injury was not keenly felt, though the withdrawal of Wesley

Sneijder at half-time may provide Danny Blind with

cause for concern ahead of tomorrow's clash with France. **Daily Mail**



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courtesy of Kick-Off website



Keagan Buchanan.

Buchanan over injury jitters ahead of Macufe Cup

JOHANNESBURG - Kaizer Chiefs midfielder Keagan Buchanan says he is no longer tentative about contact situations after making his return from an eight-month layoff.

Buchanan, who has recovered from a knee injury, recently played in the MultiChoice Diski Challenge as well as in a friendly against Botswana's Township Rollers last weekend.

He will see further game-time in the annual Macufe Cup today against his former side Bloemfontein Celtic at Free State Stadium (kick-off: 15h00).

"Especially in the MDC, you have some young guys, they see you and they want to impress - I went past quite a few tackles. So that's now out of my mind," Buchanan told his club's website.

Platform

The 25-year-old is looking forward to taking on Phunya Sele Sele, where he spent three years after spells at Winners Park and FC Cape Town in the National First Division. "The game will give me a platform to see where I am in terms of fitness and touch of the ball. It's special to be back, it's emotional as well."

Buchanan also has faith he will match expectations at Chiefs following his off-season arrival from Celtic.

Kick Off

I'VE MADE A LOT OF MISTAKES - 'CHIPPA'

JOHANNESBURG - Chippa United chairman, Siviwe 'Chippa' Mpengesi, has admitted the mistakes he made in the past, when he used to hire and fire coaches for his club.

Since appointing Dan Malesela as the coach of the side in December last year, Mpengesi has kept the former Mamelodi Sundowns player in the position until to date.

Speaking to Soccer Laduma in his interview in edition 993 of the newspaper, Mpengesi says Malesela is the coach he has been looking for in a long time.

"Ha, ha, ha, I know I've made a lot of mistakes and I'm not even ashamed to admit it. Dan

is the man I was looking for all this time - it cost me a lot of blood, sweat and money to finally find a coach like him. Funnily enough, he shares the same sentiments as me, as he says Chippa is the club he's been looking for. He was born to coach Chippa United and ours is a match made in heaven.

"He was my favourite player growing up, as he's older than me and with me supporting Pirates. I'm also glad that God used me to resurrect his coaching career because, all of a sudden, people are starting to take notice of the great job he's doing," said Mpengesi.

SoccerLaduma



Dan Malesela and Chippa United chairman Siviwe 'Chippa' Mpengesi.

Morrison determined to impress at Pirates

JOHANNESBURG - Ghanaian attacker Bernard Morrison aims to become one of the best foreign players in the Absa Premiership with Orlando Pirates.

Morrison joined Pirates this season after impressing in the Champions League with Congolese outfit AS Vita, the team that knocked Mamelodi Sundowns out of the CAF event before being disqualified.

The 23-year-old Morrison is confident he can help Bucs collect silverware in 2016/17.

"I'd like to become one of the best foreign players in this league," he says in the latest edition of KICK OFF Magazine.

"This season I think we are definitely in for the league and all the titles. Yes, we might have lost out on one (MTN8) already, but there



Striker Bernard Morrison.

are many remaining in the season, and I'm confident we can challenge for them.

Committed

"A lot is expected of us, but we are ready and committed to giving our best and to deliver good results. We won't be able to make any excuses should we fail to deliver."

The Sea Robbers on Thursday were drawn to host Golden Arrows in the last-16 of the Telkom Knockout.

Muhsin Ertugral's side are third on the league table with eight points from four games, and next visit Polokwane City on October 16.

kickoff



Bloemfontein Celtic midfielder Musa Nyatama.

Nyatama fancies Celtic's TKO chances

BLOEMFONTEIN - Bloemfontein Celtic midfielder Musa Nyatama tells Goal that getting to the next round of the Telkom Knockout Cup is their main priority although they are confident of annexing the cup.

"We are confident that we can go through to the next round; that's the main priority for us right now - to get to the next round first and take it from there," Nyatama told Goal.

"But we are confident that we can win this cup with the quality of players we have. I believe we will beat City and go through," Nyatama said.

Poor start

Phunya Sele Sele have had a poor start to the season, and the Daveyton-born star attributes this to their inability to score goals on a regular basis this season.

However, he is hoping it comes alright in Sunday's Macufe Cup showdown when they host Kaizer Chiefs at the Free State Stadium.

"We have been having a problem scoring goals so far this season, but it's something we are working on. Hopefully come Sunday we will score enough goals to win the game," Nyatama said.

Nyatama is competing against Kabelo Mahlasela in midfield, and he sees a bright future ahead for the young maestro.

Ntseki backs Amajimbos against China at BRICS U-17 Football Cup

JOHANNESBURG - Amajimbos coach Molefi Ntseki was impressed with his charges after they pulled off a 1-0 victory over India at the BRICS U-17 Football Cup in Goa, India.

South Africa left it late to arrive in the city but still managed to get the maximum points.

They will now face a China side that has already lost two matches in the tournament, which is contested by the five BRICS countries - Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. India's loss was also their second in the competition.

Meanwhile, all South Africa's remaining matches in the group stages have been rescheduled to kick off at an earlier time - starting with China at 16h00 local time (12h30 SA time).

This will be followed by Brazil then Russia.

SAFA Media sat down with Ntseki to talk about the tourna-



Molefi Ntseki.

MATLHOMOLA MORAKE:
Coach your impressions of the first match against India?

NTSEKI: I think first of all we need to congratulate the boys, they had to dig deep to get the win considering the fact that we came here very late. The first challenge was to play our match against the hosts, who had lost their first match - so

we expected them to put us under pressure and that's exactly what they did. The good thing about our game is that we managed to score first, which allowed us to settle a bit and to apply our tactical ploy and to defend our lead. It was a good match for the youngsters from both countries and I was impressed with our debutants (Thabo Mokwena and Sthembiso Kurata), I think they acquitted themselves very well.

MM: The team travelled for about 24 hours, and arrived the night before the opening game, were you not worried about fatigue catching up with them?

MN: We had to improvise, instead of having a video session before the match we had a walk-through a few hours before the match and based on the results it worked because we were able to work on the tactical approach, the individual roles and

responsibilities that had to be carried out in the game. I think the humidity took its toll on the players because they looked very dehydrated at half-time, but they did very well to protect the lead, which saw us win the match.

MM: Is it crucial how you prepare your team looking into the fact that matches are played every second day?

MN: We have experienced situations like these before and I think we are wise enough to know how to handle them - we are well aware that you won't be able to squeeze in a training session because of the back-to-back type of matches we are playing. So we will be working more on the hydration and regeneration part and to psyche the boys to be mentally strong and to have a high level of tactical discipline.

Kickoff



BARCLAYS

ENGLISH PREMIERSHIP



KLOPP CELEBRATES LIVERPOOL ANNIVERSARY

LONDON - Jurgen Klopp celebrated his one-year anniversary in charge of Liverpool in bizarre style this week, crossing an item off of his "sports bucket list". The Reds boss has enjoyed a bright year at Anfield and opted to relax by spending the day playing bowls with three supporters of his side.

It was the first time Klopp has ever played the game, but his elderly adversaries did not go easy on him as he and his team-mate were well beaten.

"Five days ago, we got an email from Liverpool bowling club... Jurgen Klopp wanted to come and have a game of bowls with us," Eric, chairman of the Trinity Bowling Club, set the scene. "It was unbelievable." Spending the day at a bowling green may sound rather dull for the 'heavy metal' football loving boss, but it was something he always wanted to do.



Jurgen Klopp.

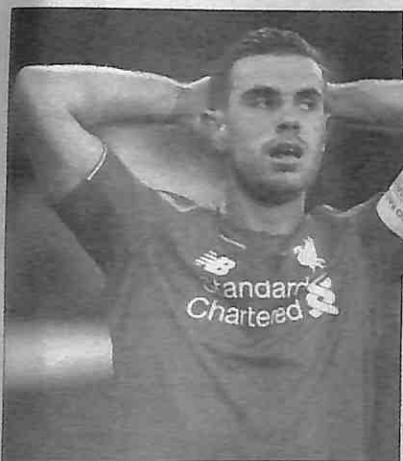
"I got attracted to this game when I was 16 on a school exchange in Luton," Klopp said.

Expected

"The Commonwealth Games were on and I watched it, and I thought 'what the... is this?' And it appeared to be everything he expected and more! Despite strug-

gling to get the hang of the game, the German was loving life on the green.

As well as picking up how to play the game, the 49-year-old enjoyed some light-hearted fun with the other players and reflected on how he is adapting to the area since his move. **Goal**



Jordan Henderson.

Henderson discusses his improvement

LONDON - Jordan Henderson says he is enjoying his football this season after admitting he feels his game is "heading in the right direction".

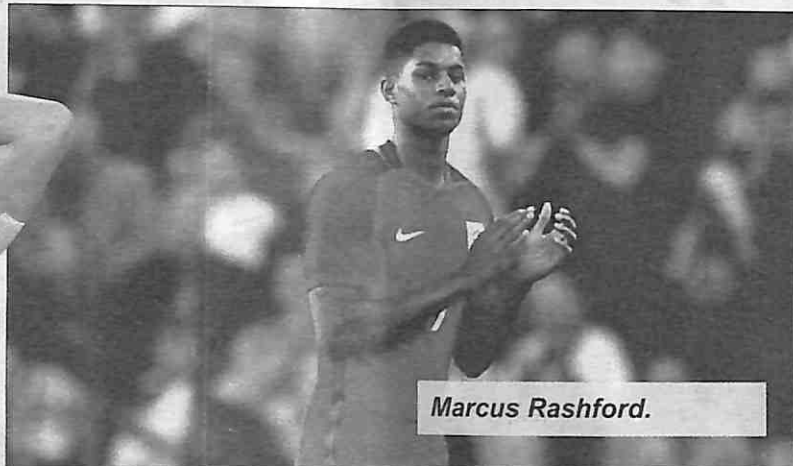
The in-form midfielder is hoping to line up for England yesterday against Malta - an experience he insists is just as enjoyable as playing for the Reds.

Jurgen Klopp's men sit fourth in the Premier League after an impressive start to the season, with Henderson flourishing in a deeper midfield role after regaining full fitness. "I have been enjoying it," he said.

"It is not too much different, just a little bit more disciplined in terms of defensive duties. I have to think about protecting the team more now.

"But I have been enjoying it, I feel as though I have improved in that position over a short space of time and I am learning from the manager and all his staff.

"I feel as if I am going in the right direction with it. I just need to continue with it." **Teamtalk**



Marcus Rashford.

Lingard, Rashford unfazed by rapid rise

MANCHESTER - Jesse Lingard says Marcus Rashford is unaffected by pressure and will continue to go from strength to strength as the goals come for Manchester United and England.

Rashford burst onto the scene last season under Louis van Gaal, scoring on his Europa League, Premier League and Manchester derby debuts.

Such was his impact, he was handed his first international call-up and he again scored on his first outing, which was enough to see him included in England's Euro 2016 squad.

Impressive

The 18-year-old has maintained his impressive form this term with four goals in nine appearances in all competitions for United, including one on his EFL Cup debut.

And team-mate Lingard believes he can continue to improve - starting with England World Cup qualifier against Malta.

"I haven't seen him [Rashford] fazed at all. He's got a love for the game and every day he's got a ball at his feet," Lingard told reporters. **Goal**

"He's still young as well so I think things are coming together for him just right at the moment and hopefully he can carry it on. Over the months he has matured a lot from making his debut to now.

"He's gained a lot of experience at international level and in the Premier League and other competitions.

Forget

"He's coming along nicely now but we can't forget he's only young. He's still going to grow and he's still going to get bigger. We'll have to wait and see what he does after that.

"I think scoring against Malta would be massive for him. His confidence is already high anyway but if he scored on Saturday that would make him more confident.

"But first and foremost we've got to win the game and we'll see what happens after that.

"His confidence is getting better all the time, he scores in most of the games he plays in, or he's had a hand in the goals. So he's contributing well for the club and hopefully he can carry that on." **Goal**



Paul Pogba.

Ibrahimovic, Pogba ignore everyone else at Man U

MANCHESTER - Paul Merson says the behaviour of Zlatan Ibrahimovic and Paul Pogba indicates Manchester United are not a team, and is sceptical they will even qualify for the Champions League.

The Old Trafford side reinforced heavily in the summer in order to get back in contention for silverware, with Pogba returning to the club for a world-record fee.

However, Jose Mourinho's men have flattered to deceive this season, the Portuguese picking up fewer points in seven Premier League games than his predecessor Louis van Gaal. And former England winger Merson feels there is a division between United's mega signings and the rest of

the squad while claiming Mourinho is unsatisfied with the quality of his players.

"Zlatan Ibrahimovic and Paul Pogba just seem to look for each other all the time and ignore everyone else.

Material

"I'm not sure they are Champions League material. They should have blown Stoke away in the first 20 minutes last Sunday [a game that finished 1-1]. "But after that I'm not sure they looked like scoring. When Mourinho starts criticising his players in public he's just showing his frustration. "He knows they haven't been good enough. Look what happened in the Europa League. The team he put out was just about the strongest he could. **Goal**



Bastian Schweinsteiger.

New York Red Bulls not interested in Schweinsteiger deal

MANCHESTER - Red Bull Head of Global Soccer Oliver Mintzlaff has made it clear New York Red Bulls are not interested in signing Manchester United outcast Bastian Schweinsteiger.

The former Germany international has been deemed surplus to requirements by Jose Mourinho at Old Trafford and recent reports suggested he could be on his way to MLS.

FC Dallas had indicated their interest at the beginning of October and New York had become the latest name to be linked to the World Cup winner with Germany. However, Mintzlaff shot down the rumours and categorically denied

Schweinsteiger will be moving to his club. "Schweinsteiger is a great player who has had an amazing career," Mintzlaff told Bild. "But there are no talks [over a move to New York RB].

Issue

"He is not an issue for us and he will not become an issue."

Nevertheless, a move to another MLS club is not completely out of the question after league Chief Don Garber stated he is keen to lure Schweinsteiger to the American top flight.

"We would welcome Bastian with open arms," Garber told Kicker. "We know him from the 2014 World Cup, when he played against the USA. **Goal**

IMBUBE MARATHON PICS



Hundreds of athletes at the starting point of Imbube Marathon at Mavuso Sports Centre in Manzini yesterday. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)



Winner in female category 21km Louisa Leballo from South Africa at The Gables.



Runners in full sprint.



Athletes passing Old Mutual water station.



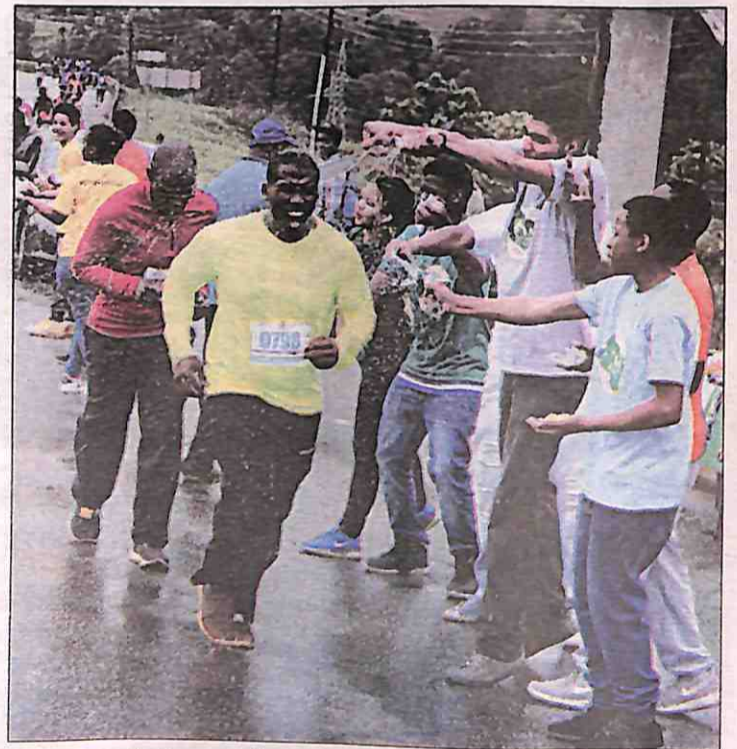
Minister of Housing Phiywayinkhosi Mabuza and Boniface Mdluli also participated in the 10km. CENTRE - Those who participated in the 10km race passing the traffic lights in Mangwaneni. RIGHT - Amos Thwala crossing the finishing line.



Runners go past Mhlaleni.



An athlete goes past SNPF water station. RIGHT - Champion in female category Thabitha Tsatsa from Zimbabwe crossing the finishing line.



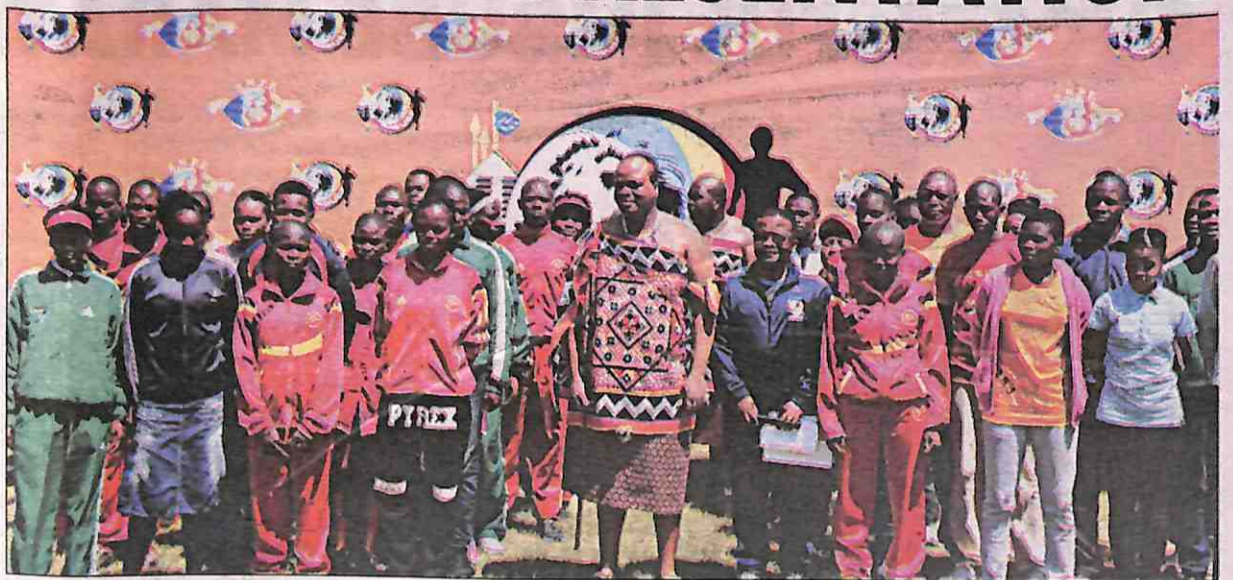
Runners being cooled-off with water.



IMBUBE MARATHON PRIZE PRESENTATION



Winner in the 21.1km race (men) Jabulani Khoza receiving a trophy from His Majesty King Mswati III after he was presented with a E7 500 cheque at the Prince of Wales yesterday. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)



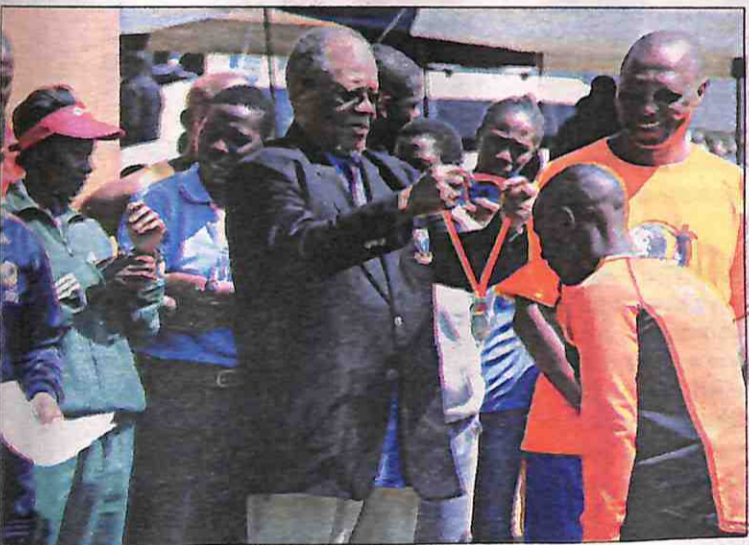
His Majesty King Mswati III posing with winners of the 42.2, 21.1 and 10km in Imbube Marathon races.



Thabitha Tsatsa accepting her trophy from His Majesty. Tsatsa came first in the female category in 42.2km race.



10km winners Nandipa Dywili, Nontokozi Dlamini and Nozipho Sibandze posing with His Majesty King Mswati III while displaying their cheques.



Sifiso Sibandze receiving his medal from the Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini.



Louisa Leballo and champions in the 10km (women) and Ntokozo Dlamini accepting their trophies from the King.



Imbube marathon champion Sifiso Sibandze posing with his runners-up Amos Thwala and Wandile Nxumalo.



Champion in the 42.2km race Thabitha Tsatsa flanked by her runners-up Catherine Sikhosana and Samkelisiwe Thwala. RIGHT - The Prime Minister presenting a medal to another winner.



DPM SINGS KING'S PRAISES FOR SUCCESSFUL IMBUBE MARATHON



STORIES BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

ATHLETICS – Deputy Prime Minister Paul Dlamini was nothing but full of praises for His Majesty King Mswati III for introducing the Imbube King's Marathon.

The DPM made these remarks during the prize presentation held at the Prince

DPM Paul Dlamini crossing the finishing line after competing in the 10km race.

of Wales ground yesterday. Dlamini said this initiative by the King played a huge role in building a healthy nation and also a step in the right direction going to vision 2022.

"We are very grateful to the king for coming up with, which has not only united the nation and members of the SADC region but goes on to keep the nation healthy," he said.

Dlamini further congratulated local runner Sifiso Sibandze of Golden Foot Athletics Club for

beating. "We are very happy and proud it was a local athlete that won the 42km race. This shows that the local sport is improving.

We do encourage him to continue working hard in upcoming races and further defend his crown next year as," he said. Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala also thanked the King for his role in the competition.

He also congratulated the champion and other athletes for taking part in the SNPF sponsored event.

He further thanked all stakeholders that contributed towards the marathon and the athletes that participated as there would have been no race without them.

"We would like to thank everyone who has ensured that the event becomes a huge success and we are looking forward to the edition," he added.

SNPF pledges more support to Imbube Marathon

ATHLETICS – The Swaziland National Provident Fund has pledged its support to Imbube King's Marathon in future.

The company had sponsored the Inaugural race staged yesterday to the tune of E500 000. Making his remarks during

event at the Prince of Wales ground yesterday, SNPF Acting CEO Langalakhe Dlamini said they were excited to be part of such a prestigious event.

He said they were honoured by the presence of his Majesty during the event which attracted close to 3 000 athletes.

"We are honoured by the presence of His Majesty King Mswati III presence and the support which has made the event a huge success.

We will continue sponsoring the race in years to come and can assure it will become bigger and better in future," he said.

Dovololo described as a peace loving man

BY SABELO MAJOLA

SOCCER – Football is known for being an emotional and vicious prone sport but former Manzini Wanderers National Supporters Chairman Elphas Dovololo Gamedze was described as a man who didn't associate himself with hostility.

Emotions engulfed the family members and attendees during the memorial service held at St Pauls Methodist church in Manzini yesterday. Tears were shed and dancing being the order of the day from Wanderers fans as they celebrated the life of a man who served the team with dignity.

Making her remarks on behalf of the team, an elderly lady identified as Mrs. Nhlengetfwa who



Manzini Wanderers supporters singing and dancing in song.

has been a devoted Wanderers supporter since 1960, said Gamedze had a sense of humor, always laughing and good-natured. "We are shattered as a team by the loss of a great man in Gamedze. He was one of a kind and had enormous love for the club. All he wanted was the best for the team and never at

one stage was he ever involved in any unpleasant acts despite football being popular for shady occurrences. His passing has hit us hard and may God be with his family and friends at this dark hour," she said.

His grandchildren also described him as an enthusiastic and passionate sports person



Nhlengetfwa making her remarks on behalf of the team.

who loved Manzini Wanderers whole-heartedly in a manner that they eventually emulated him and grew to love soccer and the team. Gamedze will be laid to rest today after a night vigil at his home in Gundvini. He passed away last Sunday while he was admitted at the Good Shepherd hospital.

Wanderers dedicates 4-0 victory to Dovololo

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

SOCCER – Manzini Wanderers Coach Clement Mdluli dedicated their 4-0 victory against Manzini Sea Birds to the late National Supporters Committee Chairman Elphas 'Dovololo' Gamedze.

Interviewed after the game played at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday, the coach said his charges had given their fallen staunch supporter a perfect send off after humbling their neighbours in front of over 500 fans that witnessed the game.

"I am happy with this win as it is dedicated to our late former official who worked diligently in transforming the Wanderers brand for many years. Credit should go to the boys for working very hard to secure maximum points and we will continue working hard in upcoming matches," he said.

Meanwhile his Manzini Sea Birds counterpart Gcina Dlamini attributed their loss to lapse of concentration.

"We didn't play well tonight. We allowed the opposition to come at us and got punished by four goals. I however feel the score was not a true reflection of the match because we dominated."

"We need to pull our socks going to upcoming games fixtures," he said.

It was goals from Tawana Chikore, Kola Aladeon, Lwazi 'Shana' Maziya and Samkeliso Mtshali that gave the Weslians their second win of the new campaign.

The league between the two sides was preceded by a National First Division encounter which saw the ambitious Matsapha United beat Sikhalo Se Africa by 3-1.



Manzini Wanderers Coach Clement Mdluli.

MTN Premier League 2016/17

PREVIEWS

Can Swallows complete a double over Leopard?

BY SABELO MAJOLA

Swallows vs Leopard
Somhlolo National Stadium,
3.30pm

Mbabane Swallows and Royal Leopard will meet again for the second time in a space of just over a week.

The two sides have a date at the Country's Mecca, the Somhlolo National Stadium this



afternoon.

Swallows got the better of the police outfit last Saturday when they recorded their second consecutive defeat against Leopard in the Castle Premier Challenge.

Swallows have however stated they have a score to settle with Leopard who beat them in the closing games of the league last season, to defend their MTN League Championship. A lot is at stake for

the defending champions who have to reinstate their dignity and pride and the only way to achieve that is avoiding a second consecutive defeat at the hands of the relentless 'Birds'.

The match will sure give spectators their money's worth as the two giants face off in what is expected to be a thriller.



Wounded 'Bull' out for maximum points

Midas City vs Mbabane Highlanders
Somhlolo National Stadium, 1.30pm

SOCCER – Having suffered their first defeat in the Premier league at the hands of arch rivals Mbabane Swallows about two weeks ago, Mbabane Highlanders will be all out to restore their dignity and pride when they meet Midas City at Somhlolo National Stadium this afternoon.

Landers' setting off in the campaign was not compelling as one would have expected, especially

against a side that they gave a 5-0 throbbing last season but Red Lions made sure to accumulate a point out of the match.

Midas City have already fumbled twice, losing both their games so far in the campaign and this doesn't look good for the Caleb Ngwenya led charges who finished at a respectable position last season.

The two sides will meet in the first game of the day and are both expecting to be all out for the much needed three points.

SIFISO SIBANDZE CROWNED IMBUBE MARATHON CHAMP

STORIES BY SABELO MAJOLA

ATHLETICS - Stand up for the inaugural Imbube King's Marathon Champion Sifiso Sibandze; The Golden Foot Club athlete defied all odds and endured to the finish line to be crowned champion of the Swaziland National Provident Fund (SNPF) sponsored tournament. The prestigious athletics competition was held yesterday, commencing at Mavuso Sports Centre to the Prince of Wales. The durable Sibandze crossed the finish line after

2:37:19 hours to earn the E50 000 carrot.

He received E25 000 for emerging the winner of the 42.2km race plus an additional E25 000 for being the first Swazi to cross the finish line. The locals dominated the race taking up to the fourth position in the race.

Taking second position was USDF's Amos Tfwala who will receive E18 000, E15 000 for being a runner-up and an additional E3 000 for being the second Swazi to cross the finish line in the marathon.

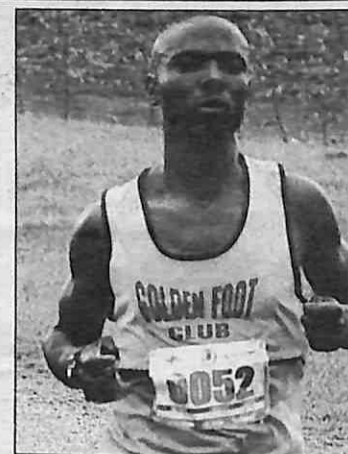
The two athletes will also, amongst

other prizes get registration and accommodation for two races of their choice within the SADC region.

Slojos's Wandile Nxumalo and RSP's Thulani Ngubane finished in third and fourth place, respectively. The jovial Sibandze said he was well prepared for the marathon after vigorous training ahead of the competition. He thanked his team coach Sifiso Mdluli, whom he said took him through every step of the way. "It was a very tough competition especially with Thulani Ngubane and Amos Tfwala on my heels for

the better part of the route. I made sure to reserve my energy along the flat parts of the route and then gave it my all at Malagwane hill, which was very challenging but I maintained momentum to the very end," he said.

The father of two, who recently participated in Mozambique and Botswana marathons, said he would use the prize money to cater for his family and upgrade his livelihood. Tfwala, on the other hand, said an injury on his thigh affected him a lot but he was content with his accomplishment.



Imbube King's Marathon Champion Sifiso Sibandze.

"I hope to do much better in the second edition of the marathon but I'm very happy with my performance, especially because I was struggling with an injury on my thigh," he said.



Samkelisiwe Thwala.

TSATSA FIRST LADY, SAMKELISIWE FIRST SWAZI

ATHLETICS - Zimbabwe's Tabitha Tsatsa proved too strong for local lady athletes and was the first lady to cross the finish line.

It took Tsatsa more than three hours to get to the finish line ahead of the local ladies. The sturdy athlete said Swaziland was like a second home having started taking part in local competitions in 2002. She said as a result, she didn't have much trouble when climbing the notori-

ous Malagwane Hill. "This is the biggest achievement in my career as an athlete and words can't explain how excited I am. I'm familiar with the route because I used it for training as I'm actively participating in most of the local athletic competitions," she said. Meanwhile RSP seasoned athlete Samukelisiwe Tfwala was the third lady to cross the finish line but the first Swazi after Tsatsa and South Africa's Catherine Skosana. Interviewed after

the race, she said that she was over the moon following her achievement and thanked her team for all the support while preparing for the race.

"Being the first local lady to cross the finish line is of great significance to me and it brings me so much joy. I would have done better but I must confess that Malagwane gave me a tough time but I'm content with my accomplishment," she said.

Place	Name	Total Time
1	Sonnyboy Mhlana	2:36:11
2	Sifiso Sibandze	2:37:19
3	Amos Tfwala	2:38:10
4	Wandile Nxumalo	2:38:57
5	Thulani Ngubane	2:40:23
Females		
1	Tabitha Tsatsa	
2	Catherine Skosana	
3	Samkelisiwe Tfwala	
21km		
1	Jabulani Khoza	1:14:43
2	Slojos 2084	1:14:51
3	Melusi Sihlongonyane	1:14:52
4	Ntokozi Mavimbela	1:16:36
5	Slojos 2082	1:18:49
Females		
1	Nandipha Dywili	
2	Nontoko Dlamini	
3	Nozipho Sibandze	

21km Results		
1	Jabulani Khoza	1:14:43
2	Slojos 2084	1:14:51

3	Melusi Sihlongonyane	1:14:52
4	Ntokozi Mavimbela	1:16:36
5	Slojos 2082	1:18:49

Females		
1	Louisa Leballo	
2	Rudo Mhonderwa	
3	Nomvula Ntshahintshali	

The prize breakdown

42.2km			
1.	E25 000		
2.	E15 000		
3.	E10 000		
4.	E5 000		
5.	E3 500		
6.	E2 500		
7.	E1 800		
8.	E1 600		
9.	E1 400		
10.	E1 200		
Veterans			
1.	E3 000	E3000	E3 000
2.	E2 000	E2 000	E1 500
3.	1 500	E1 500	E1 500
21km			
1.	E7 500		

2.	E3 750		
3.	E2 500		
4.	E1 750		
5.	E1 250		
6.	E900		
7.	E800		
8.	E700		
9.	E600		
10.	E500		

Veterans	Masters	Grandmasters
4. E3 000	E3000	E3 000
5. E2 000	E2 000	E1 500
6. 1 500	E1 500	E1 500

10km	
1.	E5 000
2.	E2 000
3.	E1 000
4.	E500
5.	E400
6.	E300
7.	E300
8.	E300
9.	E300

Red Lions suffer 2-4 defeat against Buffaloes

STORIES BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

Red Lions (1)2
Young Buffaloes (3)4

SOCCER - A hat-trick from Sanele Ngcampthalala and a Phiwa Dlamini strike handed Young Buffaloes their first league victory at the expense of Red Lions at the Somhlolo National Stadium.

The development star netted a brace in a space of two minutes before the half hour mark, completing his first hat-trick of the season 10 minutes into the second half. It was sweet victory for the army outfit as they finished the game with a man down after goalkeeper Nhlanhla Gwebu was shown red by the referee after committing a foul. The red and white ensemble, which is fresh from a 2-0 victory against rookies Tambuti, scored their consolation goals via the boots of Senzo Dlamini and Mthokozisi Hlatshwako in both the first and second stanza, respectively. Speaking after the match, Buffaloes coach Dominic Kunene said he was happy with the maximum points collected on the day.

"This is a good win for us since we are trying to gain ground in the league campaign. We however still need to work on our backline going forward," he said. Red Lions coach Zwelibandzi 'Botsotso' Khoza was gracious in defeat, saying he was still in a building process.

'Mamba', 'Bucs' share the spoils

Green Mamba (0)1
Moneni Pirates (0)1

SOCCER - A Mxolisi Mkhontfo late strike earned Correctional Services side Green Mamba a point during their league game against Moneni Pirates yesterday.

Mkhontfo netted three minutes before time to cancel out a Sihle Ndaba strike six minutes into the second half of the clash played at the Somhlolo National Stadium. Ndaba unleashed a curler free kick at the edge of the box past goalkeeper Japhta Mirase. This was after he was fouled by Msholozzi Mdluli at the edge of the box.

The former Malanti Chiefs playmaker rescued his side from getting their second league defeat when he finished off a volley inside the box to salvage the point for the green and white ensemble.

The Herbert Maruwa led side caused an early threat in the match as they could have been two nil up within the opening five minutes but failed to utilise glorious chances created by the pair of Civil Matsebula and Phumlani Ngwenya.

The two players, however, failed to beat the ever improving Sicelo Dlamini at Pirates goals after benefitting from quick counter attacks.



Pirates regained momentum towards the half hour mark but Ndaba's effort was swallowed by the opposition keeper Japhta Mirase at the edge of the box. Mfanfikile 'Fash' Ndzimandze had the visiting supporters on their feet in the 32nd minute but his ground shot missed target by few inches.

THE TEAMS

Green Mamba
Japhta, Lawrence, Gumbi, Makonese, Msholozzi, Mkhontfo, Civil, Phinda
Ginindza (Mcebo), Muhle, Phumlani, Civil
Pirates
Sicelo, Thabo, Menzi, Mncedisi, Njabulo, Xolani, Sihle (Messi), Mthokozisi (Bongani), Junior, Fash (Balloteli)

MTN Premier League log

TEAMS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
Manzini Sundowns	3	2	1	0	4	2	2	7
Manzini Wanderers	3	2	0	1	6	1	5	6
Mbabane Swallows	2	2	0	0	4	2	2	6
Royal Leopard	2	2	0	0	2	0	2	6
Young Buffaloes	3	1	1	1	4	3	1	4
Red Lions	3	1	1	1	4	4	0	4
Moneni Pirates	3	1	1	1	3	4	-1	4
Tambuti	3	1	0	2	1	3	-2	3
Green Mamba	3	0	2	1	1	2	-1	2
Mbabane Highlanders	2	0	1	1	2	3	-1	1
Sea Birds	3	0	1	2	2	7	-5	1
Midas City	2	0	0	2	1	3	-2	0

Results			
Friday			
Manzini Sea Birds	0	Manzini Wanderers	4
Yesterday			
Red Lions	2	Young Buffaloes	4
Tambuti	0	Manzini Sundowns	1

Fixtures			
Today			
Somhlolo National Stadium			
Midas City	vs	Mbabane Highlanders	1.30pm
Mbabane Swallows	vs	Royal Leopard	3.30pm

National First Division log:								
TEAMS	P	W	L	D	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Matsapha United	5	4	0	1	9	1	8	13
Malanti Chiefs	4	3	0	1	10	0	10	10
Vovovo	5	3	1	1	8	3	5	10
Hlatikulu Tycoons	5	3	2	0	8	3	-4	9
Madlenya	5	2	1	2	4	4	0	8
City Warriors	4	2	1	1	6	5	1	7
Hub Sundowns	5	1	2	2	5	4	1	5
Sikhalo	5	1	3	1	3	8	-5	4
Bad Boys	4	0	1	3	4	6	-2	3
Amalanda	4	1	3	0	3	5	-2	3
Mbabane Citizen	5	1	4	0	5	10	-5	3
Ludzeludze Brothers	3	0	3	0	0	7	-7	0

Results			
Friday			
Matsapha Utd	3	Sikhalo Se Africa	1
Yesterday			
Amalanda	1	Vovovo	2
H. Sundowns	0	H. Tycoons	1
Madlenya	1	Citizen	0

Fixtures			
Today at Manzini Club			
Bad Boys	vs	L. Brothers	1.30pm
Malanti	vs	C. Warriors	3.30pm

Ingwenyama Cup			
Fixtures			
Today at Prince of Wales			
Southern Zone			
PMT	vs	Mv. Invaders	9am
Sibovini	vs	Killers	11am
Billy Ocean	vs	Wizards	1pm
Sibuyeni	vs	Swazi Sun	3pm
Northern Zone			
Today at Prison			
Mvuma	vs	Pachanga	9am
Horo Spinners	vs	Ndeva	11am
Ndialambi	vs	nkonjaneni	1pm
N. Swallows	vs	Vultures	3pm

Esibayeni Lodge League fixture:			
Today at Somhlolo National Stadium			
Mbabane Highlanders	vs	Moneni Pirates	9am
Mbabane Swallows	vs	Manzini Sundowns	11am
Today at UNISWA Sports Ground			
Midas City	vs	Manzini Wanderers	9:30am
Royal Leopard	vs	Young Buffaloes	11am

World Cup Qualifiers

Today

Africa			
Zambia	v	Nigeria	14:45
Congo	v	Egypt	16:30
Tunisia	v	Guinea	19:00
Algeria	v	Cameroon	21:30
Europe			
Wales	v	Georgia	18:00
Israel	v	Liechtenstein	18:00
Finland	v	Croatia	18:00
Ukraine	v	Kosovo	18:00
Moldova	v	R. of Ireland	20:45
Serbia	v	Austria	20:45
Albania	v	Spain	20:45
FYR Macedonia	v	Italy	20:45
Iceland	v	Turkey	20:45

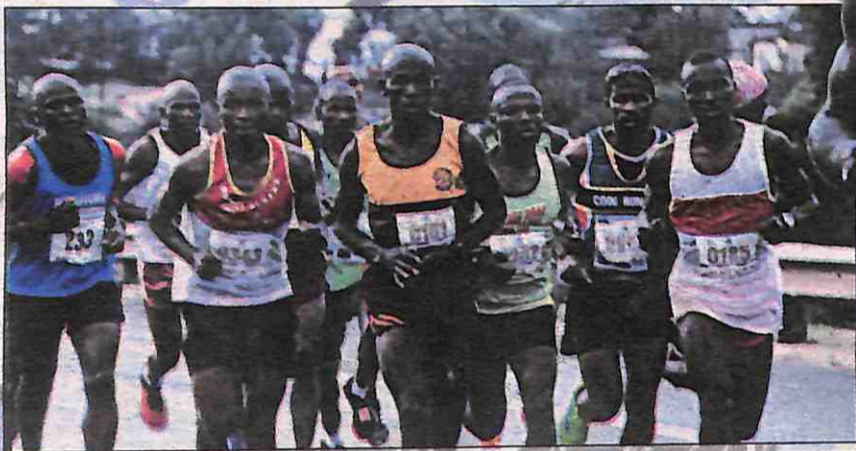
SundayObserver SPORTING

OCTOBER 9, 2016



Imbube King's Marathon:

SIFISO'S GOLDEN FOOT WINS MARATHON



Sifiso celebrates



... GFC athlete **E50 000** richer after winning inaugural Imbube King's Marathon
... **Locals** shine in tournament, awarded by His Majesty King Mswati II



THE BEST



Imbube Marathon podium winners posing after receiving their prizes at the Prince of Wales yesterday.

Amakhosi out to end Celtic hoodoo in Macufe Cup

BLOEMFONTEIN - Bloemfontein Celtic and Kaizer Chiefs will lock horns in the much anticipated Macufe Cup clash on this afternoon.

Both teams are expected to give a few of their fringe players a run on the day, but for Phunya Sele Sele, this encounter will be important in ensuring they get their confidence back and combinations right ahead of the return of the PSL action next week.

The Free State outfit started the season very poorly, and they find themselves at the bottom of the log with one point from their first three league matches.

For Chiefs though, this will be the perfect chance to get the likes of Keagan Buchanan and Siphelele Mthembu on par with the rest of their teammates in terms of fitness.

Buchanan recently returned from a long-term injury, while Mthembu has been overlooked despite the club's decision to

remove him from the transfer list at the beginning of the season.

Buchanan is looking forward to facing his former club, but most importantly, he wants to use this encounter as a barometer.

"It's obviously special to go back to Bloemfontein. It will be mixed emotions because I don't know what to expect from the Celtic supporters," Buchanan told the media. "This game even if you call it a friendly is a good platform for me to see where I am at in terms of



my confidence and if I still have my touch," he said. Meanwhile, Celtic winger Lyle Lakay understands that winning

the Macufe Cup would go a long way in bringing back their lost confidence. **Goal.com**